

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Canvassing change
A Conservative MP makes a case for the anti-politician.

Changing canvas
On holiday, House Man turns into Tent Man and becomes a new man.

Looking forward



Spectrum observes Sir Bernard Lovell at 70, the man who created Jodrell Bank.
Slipping back in its attempt to sell off the state's oil interests, the Government is slipping behind in its entire privatization programme.

40,000 US targets in Russia

The United States has identified 40,000 possible targets for nuclear attacks in the Soviet Union, compared with 2,600 in 1980 and 25,000 in 1974, according to a study by the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Page 5

Soft approach to union reform

Union leaders have drawn up a composite motion for next month's TUC conference recommending reasoned discussions to persuade the Government to drop its planned labour law reforms. Back Page

Nott admission

A Falklands-type operation would not be possible in the 1990s, Sir John Nott, former Secretary of State for Defence, has acknowledged. Page 2

Falkland victim

Major Geoff Ward, aged 36, had a leg amputated below the knee after stepping on a mine left by Argentine troops in the Falklands. Sergeant-Major John Devine was cut and bruised.

Scientists meet

Reports on the Brighton conference of the British Association for the Advancement of Science appear on page 4.

Shares slump

Shares fell heavily yesterday, with the FT index down by 16.4 to 724, wiping out all the gains achieved in the previous 10 days. Page 13

UDR man shot

A part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was shot dead by two gunmen on a motor cycle as he left work in Strabane.

Manila witness

A Japanese freelance journalist has said he saw Philippines military guards shoot Benigno Aquino in the head. Page 4

Middlesex slip

Middlesex failed to hold on to their lead in the county championship when they were bowled out by Somerset on a sticky wicket at Lord's. Page 17

Cram's triumph

Steve Cram, Britain's 1500 metres world champion, won an 800 metres race in Imlan 43.61sec in Oslo last night. The time was the fastest in the world this year.

Leader page 9

Letters: On Nato defence, from Rear-Admiral Dr Kurt Fischer; planning, from Professor G. E. Cherry.

Leading articles: Mr Tebbit and the TUC; Poland; Pakistan.

Features: pages 6-8

Laws that should be abolished: Bernard Levin on the Liberal death wish; Hong Kong's new territory; Spectrum: getting to the bottom of the showpiece mini-fiasco. Wednesday page: Manlow mania.

Obituary, page 10

Mr William Tamblin, Dr F. H. Krock

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Treasury seeking more cuts to stop big tax rises

By Staff Reporters

The Cabinet has been warned by the Treasury that unless it cuts its spending, particularly on defence, there will have to be large increases in personal taxation near the end of the decade.

The warning is contained in a Treasury paper, prepared under conditions of extreme confidentiality, on the financing of public spending in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

It is the first post-election assessment of the options open to the Government during its term of office and is expected to be discussed by the Cabinet when ministers return to the Whitehall next month.

The exercise has involved a thorough updating of earlier work which provided the basis for last year's controversial "think-tank" study on ways of cutting spending. It ranges much wider than the study of ways to finance the welfare state which the Prime Minister has already disclosed.

There is likely to be particular emphasis on the growing size of the defence budget if Britain tries to maintain its commitment to increase defence spending by 3 per cent a year beyond 1985-86, when present policy pledges run out.

Cutting the defence budget, which has increased by 2 per cent since 1979, is thought to be essential if other spending departments are to be kept in check over the next decade.

One small victory, already gained in Treasury discussions

with the Ministry of Defence, is that the Treasury's Cabinet paper makes no allowance for higher levels of inflation in defence costs than the general increase in prices over the next decade.

In the past the Defence Ministry has been able to claim that because its costs grew faster than other spending departments it should get more money.

Fears about leaks are so intense that the spending departments have not been allowed to play a full part in the latest exercise, which has been carried out within the Treasury.

The relevant ministries have been restricted to a limited role providing basic information about their plans.

But a determination not to repeat the fiasco of last year's "think tank" report, which generated such controversy when sprung on Cabinet that it had to be withdrawn, means that a limited exercise in guided public debate is likely.

One idea being discussed is that influential bodies such as the National Institute for Economic Research, the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Policy Studies Institute should take part in discussions on the long-term outlook for public spending.

However, present plans do not involve giving them access to detailed estimates of how spending will grow over the years ahead.

At the heart of the Govern-

ment's problem is the fear that public spending as a share of the country's output could surge at the end of the decade.

Two forces are expected to come together to produce this. One is the inexorable pressure of demand for better services and more spending on defence. The other is the continuing prospect of slow economic growth, caused more by pessimism about the world's performance than a feeling that Britain will lose ground compared to other countries.

Taken together, these factors are thought to risk pushing up public spending as a share of output from about 44 per cent today to a significantly higher level by the early 1990s. It was only 41 per cent of output when the Conservatives took office in 1979.

The Treasury paper was circulated just before most ministers went on holiday, and has not yet been discussed formally in Cabinet. It provides a warning of severe battles to come in the longer term over the whole course of public spending and gives extra edge to the immediate problems facing ministers already trying to pare £6,000 million for spending plans for next year to bring them within target.

The ripples from these efforts have already been seen in the form of disclosures about plans being considered to cut some of the benefits which are paid to the unemployed.



British Gas urged to raise prices

By Jonathan Davis

British Gas, which made profits of £103.4m last year, was told yesterday that, having doubled its tariffs since 1979, it is still undercharging its customers by more than £500m a year.

According to a report on the corporation's efficiency by the accountants Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, the state-owned corporation should have taken another £420m in revenue from its domestic customers last year, along with an extra £110m from industry and commerce.

This means that the country's 15.3 million gas consumers - whose average annual bill is £227 - are paying £27 a year less than they should be.

The reason is that while the corporation is easily covering the actual costs of supplying and distributing gas - hence its record profits - it is not adequately covering its so-called "marginal costs" - the price it is having to pay for expensive supplies from new North Sea gas fields.

The report says the corporation should take this into account when working out its future pricing strategy, although it acknowledges that increases would have to be gradual.

The 250-page report, commissioned jointly last year by the Government and the gas corporation, is certain to add to the furor that has already greeted British Gas's hints that it may put up domestic gas tariffs by 4 to 5 per cent this autumn.

British Gas, which would only say yesterday that it is studying the report, has still

Continued on back page, col 1

Continued on back page, col 1

The minstrel with a Palace all his own

By Kenneth Gosling

Andrew Lloyd Webber, millionaire composer of the hit musicals *Car, Eriza and Jesus Christ Superstar*, yesterday achieved his life's ambition of owning a West End theatre, when he announced the acquisition from Sir Emile Little of the Palace Theatre in London.

The impresario, who will be 80 next month, said Mr Lloyd Webber and his partners had put on various attractions at the Palace which had been "a very great help to us".

"They have been very good tenants," he said. "We loved having them here. I hope they will not stop doing their homework and will go home and do a lot more."

Mr Lloyd Webber, pictured outside the Palace yesterday, paid £1.3m for it. Last year he made unsuccessful bids for the Aldwych Theatre and later the Old Vic, which was bought by Mr Ed Marish, a Canadian businessman, who outbid him by £50,000.

The 1400-seat Palace, designed in 1891 for D'Oyly Carte's *Carte as a home for English grand opera*, has been the home of the Lloyd Webber musical *Song and Dance*, since April last year. *Jesus Christ Superstar* was in occupation for eight years and two weeks, depositing *The Sound of Music* as the longest running musical in British theatre history.

He is writing a musical based on David Garnett's novel, *Aspects of Love* and produced the hit play *Daisy Pulls It Off* at the Globe Theatre.

The Palace will be refurbished before being relaunched as a centre for music and music hall.

For many years people have tried to buy the building, according to *The Times*. In March 1930 an offer of £400,000 was made for the site by a chain store, but the Palace directors rejected it.

Unlike any other London theatre in its form of architecture, the Palace is a Grade 2 listed building. (Photograph by Harry Kerr.)

Continued on back page, col 1

Falklands-type operation would be impossible in 1990s, Nott admits

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Sir John Nott, former Secretary of State for Defence, acknowledged yesterday that under his policies it would become impossible in the 1990s for Britain to carry out an operation similar to last year's recapture of the Falkland Islands.

But the Ministry of Defence said that spending on the Royal Navy, excluding the cost of the Falkland Islands and the Polaris and Trident programmes, was 15 per cent higher in real terms than when the Government took office in 1979.

Both statements were made in response to criticisms made on Monday by Captain John Moore in the new edition of *Jane's Fighting Ships*. Captain Moore referred to the "whole-scale emasculation" of the Royal Navy and said that it lacked "the necessary balance for general maritime operations."

The main thrust of Captain Moore's criticisms were aimed at Sir John's defence policy review of June 1981.

In an interview on BBC radio, Sir John said that if his defence White Paper of 1981 had merely brought the defence budget back in line with Government spending targets,

"There were no financial cuts imposed in the defence review. The importance of the review

was to look ahead 10-15 years, knowing that the reality of our position was that we could not afford to keep the balanced naval power that everybody would like to see."

The truth of the matter was that the navy was overprogrammed and of course I had to cut back the forward plans because the plans were far, too ambitious. All the services have to learn to live within the budget they are allocated."

Sir John added: "We must decide our priorities and if the Royal Navy will not decide those priorities for itself then in the end they will have to be imposed upon the Royal Navy".

He said that Britain could not meet its Nato commitments, which were overwhelmingly our defence against an extremely sophisticated Soviet fleet, and at the same time also carry on the general maritime responsibilities.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Sir John's successor as Secretary of State of Defence, has said that if he had carried out the review he would probably have taken very similar decisions.

In yesterday's statement, the Ministry of Defence said that this year £700m more in real terms would be spent on the navy. There were 38 warships

decided that it has no use at present for a system which would enable aircraft to be launched or plucked out of the air by hook.

The SkyHook which is still in the very early design stage, was devised by British Aerospace to extend the number of ships which could operate vertical and short-take-off-and-landing aircraft such as the Harrier. The ministry said that the system's height could reduce speed and seaworthiness.

Raleigh to cut 600 more jobs

By John Lawless

T. I. Raleigh, the Nottingham cycle company, is to make 600 workers redundant, it was announced yesterday. Two hundred and fifty staff and hourly paid production workers will lose their jobs during the next two months. A further 350 jobs will be lost by the middle of next year, through natural wastage.

The workforce has been halved in the past three years but the company said that it did not envisage any more redundancies after the latest cuts.

Inquiry into ambulance crash

Cambridgeshire ambulance service started an investigation yesterday into why a Peugeot ambulance equipped with a life support system overturned on the M11 at Girton near Cambridge on Monday night, injuring its driver, nurse and doctor.

The patient, Mr Martin Bedford, from March, who was being transferred from Peterborough Hospital to the head injuries department at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, was in a critical condition last night.

RSPCA to hunt marauding mink

Residents of a North Yorkshire town have called in the RSPCA to hunt down mink, after scores of animals savaged two dozen ducklings and 10 adult birds swimming in a stream.

Residents of Bedale, who fear that the mink may attack children who play in the picturesque spot, lobbied the local council. The Ministry of Agriculture has now agreed to supply traps and RSPCA officials will have the captured mink humanely destroyed.

Inquiry urged after suicides

An all-party group of six MPs, meeting yesterday at the Glasgow headquarters of the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties, decided to ask the Government for a public inquiry into young offender institutions in Scotland.

These people in institutions have killed themselves in ten months, the latest eight days ago, Mr David Godwin, the council's general secretary, said: "The issue will not be resolved by making scapegoats of a few staff at low level."

Channel 4 drops alternative news

Channel 4 has not renewed the contract for the weekly alternative news programme, *The Friday Alternative*, which ends in October. The programme, made by Diverse Production, has attracted few viewers. It is understood that it is likely to be replaced by another alternative media production.

Murder charge

James Mason, aged 31, and his wife Valerie Ann, aged 22, were jointly charged yesterday with murdering David Moore, aged 29, an insurance salesman, from Manchester, in Hulme, South Lakeland, on August 12. The couple, from Ashton-in-Makerfield, Greater Manchester, were remanded in custody.

Bosanquet wed

Mr Reginald Bosanquet, aged 55, the former ITN newsreader, married for the third time yesterday at Chelsea Register Office. His bride was Mrs Joan Platt.

Harrods to promote Hongkong goods

By John Lawless

A 10-year campaign to rid Hongkong products of their old "cheap and nasty" image reaches a climax next March when they will dominate the shelves of Harrods for a month.

Officials of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, who clinched the deal, having made their first approach to the Knightsbridge department store in 1973, regard the event as the "ultimate accolade".

The council is to spend £400,000 promoting the event. Harrods, which has already started sending buying teams to Hongkong, will match that amount.

With the Hongkong Government, its tourist authority and Cathay Pacific airline also contributing, the promotional budget will be worth almost a quarter of the £4.5m worth of goods to be flown in.

The man who first suggested the idea, the council's executive director, Mr Len Dunning, said yesterday: "Harrods has some of the most discerning and quality-conscious customers in the world."

"To have Hongkong merchandise as the theme throughout the store for a full month is the best possible acknowledgement that our products can now stand up to international

£1m fire charge

A boy aged 15 charged with starting a fire which caused

more than £1m damage to a

warehouse in Skipton Lane,

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before Luton Juvenile Court

yesterday. The case was adjourned until September 20.

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A boy aged 15 charged with starting a fire which caused

Telephone caller says he knows one of the men who assaulted boy

The focus of the hunt for three men who abducted a six-year-old boy near his home in Brighton and sexually assaulted him switched yesterday to an anonymous telephone caller who claimed to know one of the attackers. Detective Chief Insp Geoffrey Randle, who is leading the hunt, said that the anonymous caller sounded terrified when he made two calls on Sunday evening shortly after 10pm.

"He said that he knew one of the persons who had attacked the boy and that he knew where the man lived. It is a long distance telephone call from the north of England."

"The caller did agree at one time that he would meet an officer but still refused to give his name or whereabouts. He said that if it was found out that he had told the police that he knew the identity of the man he would be in for it."

"We tried to persuade him to make an appointment or agree to go to a police station or give us some details whereby we could meet and talk with him but he merely repeated that he was terrified and eventually broke down in tears and rang off," Inspector Randle said.

"The same man rang back at 10.18 the same night. On this occasion he said that he himself was gay and that his friend; the one who was responsible for the attack, is perverted. He also eliminated from inquiries."

said that this man had told him that "he has done it".

He repeated that he was terrified and did not want us to come to his house and despite our efforts for him to identify himself, the man broke off the conversation.

"We appeal to this man to contact us again either by telephone, contacting his local police, or if he does not feel that he can approach the police directly, maybe there is someone he can trust, a priest or a friend, who will help him to come to us so that we can evaluate what he has to say," Mr Randle said.

Each day, both of which the police are treating seriously, lasted two minutes and were not traceable, although it is known that they were made from a private telephone.

"We are always very conscious that some people with a weird sense of humour might play games with us now that we have made this public, but he said a couple of things which we would like to keep back which would help us identify the 'caller'. Mr Randle said. The man had a northern accent.

A left-hand-drive car with German number plates that boarded the Sealink Newhaven to Dieppe ferry and was believed might have been the same one seen in the area of the boy's abduction on the night of the attack has been virtually eliminated from inquiries."

A woman saw a brown car with black numbers on white plates, in the style of German cars, near where the boy was kidnapped. The only German car on the next available ferry after the boy 10 days ago was a silver BMW which has been traced to an elderly couple living in Münich.

Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Conservative MP for Littleborough and Saddleworth, has threatened a backbench revolt against the Government unless the Paedophile Information Exchange, which advocates sex between adults and children, is banned.

He said that he would not "fobbed off with replies that the present law is adequate to protect children".

"Public opinion now demands action. I have now thrown the gauntlet down to the Government, and there will be a massive row if they do not act," Mr Dickens said.

The Paedophile Information Exchange yesterday condemned the attack on the boy.

Mr Steven Adrian, a former vice-chairman of PIE and a committee member, said: "Mr Dickens just sees PIE as a very populist platform".

He said "PIE unreservedly condemns such incidents whenever they occur. People with such callous motivation would have not point in joining PIE. We would have nothing to offer such individuals".



Bizarre blooms: Graeme Garden, of the central London. The unusual plot came from television comedy series, "The Goodies," living up to his name yesterday by planting flowers on a pillar box in Farringdon Street, (Photographer: John Voos).

Bailiff changes 'will make credit dearer'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Consumer credit could become more expensive and harder to obtain as a result of a planned 30 per cent reduction in the 1,100 county court bailiffs and a cut-back in their duties, a traders' representative said yesterday.

Mr Patrick, director of the Consumer Credit Trade Association, told *The Times* that bad-debt losses to the retail trade could be increased by more than £3m by the changes.

Dr B. W. Bailey, director of the United Association for the Protection of Trade, said that protests have been made to the Lord Chancellor, who oversees the Courts by trade bodies.

The Lord Chancellor's Department plans to cut bailiffs' work by increasing the minimum level for a part warrant of execution from £15 to £20. The warrant is issued by the court at the request of the creditor for part of the outstanding debt.

Broadly speaking, it applies where a court has made an order for repayment by instalments. The amount for which the warrant is issued cannot be less than one of the instalments and at present cannot be less than £15. The new minimum of £20 will reduce numbers of warrants issued.

Economies will also be made in serving of summonses.

The plaintiff now has a choice of how a summons can be served to notify the debtor of a claim. The Lord Chancellor's Office plans to remove the choice of having it served by a court bailiff.

Mr Patrick said that the changes could lead to a significant shift in the tactics used by retailers to collect debts. He predicted greater use of attachments on earnings orders. Consumer credit would become much tighter and the customer could end up by paying more.

The CCTA represents companies like Debenhams, the Co-op Bank, Currys, Rumehows, Woolworth and Selfridges.

New credit extended by retailers in 1982 was £3,370m. Finance houses extended a further £5,938m fixed sum credit.

The Burton Group, the clothing retailer, estimates that it could lose between £300,000 and £400,000 because of the changes. Mr Victor Ware, the credit manager, said that the company would not record judgments below £50. This means that people prevented from getting credit because of their bad payments may well be able to. That will cause bad debts.

Retailers will be most affected by the changes because the sums involved are smaller.

Increasing numbers of people are getting into debt, according to *Clapham Omnibus*, the magazine published by the National Consumer Council. Redundancies have created a new class of debtor, the white-collar worker or skilled worker.

New computer 'links home and school'

By John Hirst, Electronics Correspondent

A new British-made home computer designed to be plugged into the television set was launched yesterday by Acorn, the makers of the BBC Microcomputer. It is half the price of the corporation's model.

The Electron will be on sale for just under £200 from next month in Acorn dealers in 100 W. H. Smith shops. It is not as sophisticated as the BBC Microcomputer which was launched last year and has sold more than 150,000, but it does have many of its good features.

The BBC Microcomputer has been used extensively in schools and its sales have been stimulated by the television programmes made on computers by the corporation. The new Acorn product, however, has been designed to be used by everyone at the home.

Acorn management says: "The majority of children using computers at school are learning on a BBC Micro. Having a BBC-compatible Electron at home will ensure that their skills are never wasted, since whatever is learned at home can be immediately applied at school. The home will soon

Kidney illness confirmed in girl aged 7

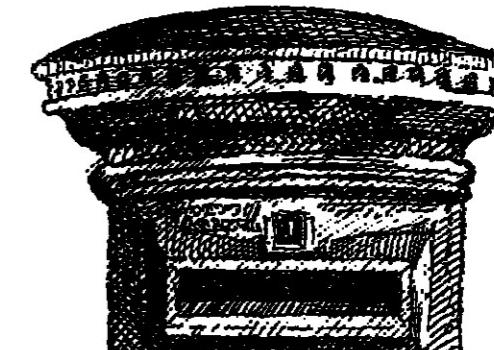
From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

A girl aged seven from West Bromwich was confirmed yesterday as having haemolytic uraemic syndrome, a condition affecting the kidneys and blood, which has caused three deaths in the past six weeks.

The girl, who was not identified, is in Sandwell District General Hospital, and an official of the regional health authority said her condition was not causing anxiety. She was admitted to hospital on Saturday.

She is the nineteenth child to be affected in the general area of the Black Country and the thirtieth case of the infection reported in England this summer. The condition of three of the five children still in hospital is improving, but there is concern for two, particularly for a boy aged two who is in a coma.

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Straw-burning ban urged to cut waste

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

The annual burning of straw worth about £500m is the biggest waste scandal in farming, the Friends of the Earth organization says in a report published yesterday.

The straw has the thermal capacity of 2,700,000 tonnes of coal and could provide all the heating fuel needed in agriculture, the group says. Burning it in the fields destroys the insects and rodents on which birds depend.

The report calls for a total ban on straw burning and suggest instead a straw haulage subsidy, from funds at present supporting cereal production, to encourage transport from areas in surplus to those with demand.

Strawburning: You'd Think Farmers had Money to Burn. Friends of the Earth, 377 City Road, London EC1, £1.95.

Irish town prepares for Reagan's return to roots

Representative, Mr Michael Creedon.

The letter was delivered two weeks after four American Secret Service men visited the town, which has a population of 300.

Four weeks earlier Margaret Hickey, US Secretary of Health and Human Services, called in on her way home from a conference in Geneva.

NBC, the US television network, is said to have booked studio time in Dublin for a week in October to film a special programme on the town.

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Altruism in the bat family

By Pearce Wright

Science Editor

Even bats can be altruistic, according to Dr P. Harvey, lecturer in biology at Sussex University's School of Biological Sciences.

He was supporting sociobiology, the theory that genetic survival can be explained in terms of animal behaviour, and that behaviour behind human evolution is no different from that of other animals.

He described how vampire bats which draw blood from their victims at night regurgitate some of their diet in the day for the one in seven bats which have failed to get a satisfactory meal and are in imminent danger of starving.

Dr Harvey said such cases of altruism pose problems for the evolutionary biologist. If natural selection is a potent evolutionary force, why should animals help others at some cost to themselves?

He said a picture was emerging which he described as examples of either nepotism or reciprocity.

He said: "Nepotism of kin selection involves helping others who are related to you. Relatives share copies of your own genes, identical by descent from a common ancestor. By helping relatives, animals make the survival and propagation of copies of their own genetic material."

"Ground squirrels give alarm calls when they see predators, thus warning others of the danger but possibly attracting the predator's attention".

Farmland 'not disappearing'

The common view that British farmland is disappearing fast under a web of urban development is completely wrong, Professor Robin Best of the University of London told the agriculture section.

The loss of farmland to roads and houses reaches a peak in the 1930s when 25,000 hectares disappear every year. The rate today is no more than 8,000 hectares a year, according to Mr Best, who is professor of land use at Wye College.

Graphic account of Manila murder

'I saw guards shoot Aquino in head'

From Our Correspondent

Tokyo

A Japanese freelance journalist, who claims to have witnessed the shooting of the Philippine opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, alleges that the fatal shot was fired by one of the military guards who escorted the politician from the aircraft after landing in Manila on Sunday.

Mr Kiyoshi Wakamiya, a passenger on the China Airlines jet which carried Mr Aquino to his death, told a press conference after his return to Tokyo that the military guard fired at a distance of a yard from Aquino's head. Mr Wakamiya said he viewed the scene through the legs of various people crowding the aircraft's exit.

"I saw from inside the plane that two of the three officers, who took him (Aquino) out, pulled out handguns and shot at Mr Aquino's head from a close range within one metre," Mr Wakamiya said.

"At that time (when the aircraft landed), three officers in khaki-coloured uniforms came inside the plane. I think they called him 'senator' or something... he (Aquino) smiled, and asked me to carry his



was descending the stairway," he said.

"As he descended, the two officers suddenly pulled out small handguns - I think they were .45s. Mr Aquino was wearing a bullet-proof vest, though. They suddenly pulled out handguns."

He said that as the group moved down the stairway from the plane, two officers sandwiched him from sides and one followed him from behind. Then, when they touched the ground and walked a few steps, there was "bang, bang. I was so astonished. Mr Aquino fell flat forward."

The *Asahi Shimbun* newspaper, also reporting on the press conference, quoted Mr Wakamiya as saying "I didn't see who fired the shots at that moment. Aquino fell forward without even bending his knees, with blood gushing from his head."

Immediately after Aquino was shot, the Japanese journalist said, another man was pushed by the guards from a waiting military van and then shot dead. The other man is alleged by the Philippine authorities to have been the assassin.

"Everybody was standing up. I fell down and I could see clear through their legs he (Aquino) had

had "evidence" that the as-

sassination was premeditated by the Philippines authorities, but gave no details.

According to reports from Manila by others on the flight, Mr Wakamiya was in a highly emotional state after the incident. His account of the events was initially carried by Japan's Kyodo News Service.

There were reports that Japanese newspapers carrying the story of Mr Wakamiya's allegations, are not being allowed into the Philippines.

Colonel Luis San Andres, the police spokesman, said the

Government denied the Japanese reports (Reuter and AFP report). A spokesman said that press conference remarks by President Ferdinand Marcos "should be interpreted as an outright denial of the allegations that Aquino was shot by military men".

Police also announced what

was described as partial identification of the alleged assassin. They said only that his name appeared to be "Rolly".

Colonel Luis San Andres, the police spokesman, said the

partial identification was based on the embroidered name on the waistband of the killer's underpants and a gold ring with the initial "R".

● WASHINGTON: The White House has made clear that President Reagan intends to go ahead with a planned visit to Manila in November despite the assassination. President Reagan had seemed to leave open the possibility of a cancellation when answering reporters in Los Angeles on Monday.

After 10 years, a move to change the political leadership of the state is urgently required.

Going beyond political interests, the nation has become convinced that for the good of the country, a person above the quarrels and painful conflicts of recent times is needed," the document said.

It added: "The country and its people today have a democratic alternative... and to refuse it is to drive the country to the precipice or to a social explosion with unforeseeable consequences."

The document expands on themes put forward by Sefer Gürsel Valdes, a former Foreign Minister, two weeks ago when the President of the Christian Democrats announced the creation of the alliance, which groups all the main opposition parties except the Communists.

EEC differences widen on farm budget

Brussels (Reuter) - Wide differences emerged today in the European Community over a plan to cut farm spending. The conflicting national views were emphasized in a report by the Council of Ministers secretary, which was debated at a meeting of ministers and senior officials.

That unlisted farm price guarantees must end and that beyond certain production levels, farmers must help to pay the cost of disposing of food surpluses.

But the secretariat reported differences on the size of the farm budget, the share of sacrifice to be borne by differ-

Gdansk workers ignore union go-slow demand

Gdansk (Reuter) - A worker's go-slow called by a secret committee at the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk appeared to have drawn only a negligible response yesterday.

A shipyard spokesman said work went on normally at the sprawling yard employing some 13,000 people which was the birthplace three years ago of Poland's now-banned Solidarity trade union.

Out of more than 30 workers from different departments questioned by Western reporters as they came off the morning shift only four said they knew of any response to the go-slow appeal, made by a clandestine committee known as the TKZ.

The protest had been called to bring pressure on the Communist authorities to begin talks with Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader. The Government has ruled out negotiations with Mr Walesa and has launched a propaganda campaign against him.

As he entered the shipyard early yesterday Mr Walesa said

Australia to double deficit

Canberra (Reuter) - Australia expects a record budget deficit \$Aus 8.36bn (\$4.8bn) up to June 30 next year, against the 1982-83 deficit of \$Aus 4.47bn, the Treasurer, Mr Paul Keating, told Parliament yesterday.

Introducing the Labour Government's first budget, Mr Keating said spending would rise to \$Aus 56.7bn from \$Aus 48.95bn and receipts to \$Aus 48.34bn from \$Aus 44.51bn.

"There can be no doubt that this budget, with a deficit increasing to an estimated 4.7 per cent of gross domestic product from 2.8 per cent last year, will prove to be highly expansionary", he said.

The main elements of the budget's spending include a rise for social security and welfare to \$Aus 16.84bn from \$Aus 14.11bn and in defence spending to \$Aus 5.28bn from \$Aus 4.78bn.

Foreign aid will rise to \$Aus 836.64m from \$Aus 744.62m including an increase in \$Aus 105.06m in contributions to international aid institutions from \$Aus 67.68m.

Other spending increases include a rise to \$Aus 4.21bn

from \$Aus 3.80bn in education and to \$Aus 4.29bn from \$Aus 3.42bn for health, mainly due to the planned setting up of the Government's Medicare health scheme.

On the revenue side, there were no changes in income and company tax apart from elimination of some minor spending deductions and a tightening of a section of tax law relating to property speculation.

Measures announced in the budget, and a 1 per cent Medicare levy on taxable income, are estimated to increase receipts by \$Aus 1.44bn.

He was apparently alluding to the recent call by Mr Kim Young Sam, the South Korean opposition leader, for a national struggle to win greater democracy.

Mr Chun intimated that he would deal harshly with any political movement that tried to disrupt the constitutional order under the pretext of demanding democratization.

In the written interview, Mr Chun indicated that he would abide strictly by the constitution which prohibits a president from seeking relection after a single seven-year term.

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Seoul warns against disruption

Seoul (AFP) - President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea said yesterday that the peaceful transfer of power was vital to South Korea's democratization. He again made it clear that he would step down when his term ended in 1988.

"We have provided a solid institutional device for democratization and all of us must heed it faithfully", Mr Chun

Seeing stars from telescope in space

From Pearce Wright, Brighton

Plans for an optical telescope in space which will be more efficient than the largest ground-based observatory were described by Professor M. S. Longair, Astronomer Royal for Scotland and director of the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, to the physics section of the association.

It will cost about \$1,000,000 (£625,000) and is designed to fit into the cargo bay of the United States space shuttle. It should be ready for launch in May 1986 and will be placed in a circular orbit 500 km up, where it will be refurbished about every two years.

The telescope is a joint venture of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the European Space Agency.

Reflecting the excitement developing among astronomers, Professor Longair said: "The space telescope observatory is going to dominate the work and ideas of astronomers until the end of the century. We have been planning our programme at Edinburgh for six years."

He disclosed that the preparatory research from ground-based observatories had revealed in the past month objects that were formed when the universe was less than half its present age. And those were among the oldest formations so far found in the sky.

But he said the new telescope

would reveal galaxies and stars 100 times fainter than those which could be seen by the most powerful instruments available today; it would peer to the furthest reaches of the cosmos to find galaxies which were formed when the universe was less than third of its present age.

The telescope will help astronomers see how stars, quasars, black holes and other objects have been changing with cosmic time; and that is a fundamental observation for astronomical researchers.

Professor Longair said stars could be observed at very early stages in their evolution through their intense infra-red radiation, although it was not yet clear exactly what stage this represented in star formation.

There were many basic questions to which astronomers had not clear answers. For example, how did the rate of star formation depend upon the temperature, density and chemical composition of the gas clouds from which it was formed?

Some of those questions would be best answered by infra-red observation. The space telescope would have a 2.5 metre (about 10ft) mirror, as well as half a dozen "telephone box" sized containers carrying the electronic cameras for ultraviolet and infra-red exploration, and planetary studies.

£2.5m given to teach disabled on computers

The government is to spend £2.5m to put computerized learning equipment into the 700 special schools for disabled children. Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Industry, announced yesterday.

He said the Department of Trade and Industry already sponsored the development of information technology for the disabled, including the sound bubble, which helps very young children to learn coordination by playing a simple tune, and undetermining, consisting of inactivity and an unwillingness or inability to learn in the way teachers wanted.

Explaining the research yesterday, Dr David Steed, a senior lecturer at Goldsmith's College, London, said that disruption in two London schools, the subject of study, was so widespread as to be normal.

"Yet paradoxically neither school was obviously disorderly and in both there was evidence that the majority of pupils were learning satisfactorily", he said. When teachers talked about acts of disruption they meant rowdiness, abuse, bad language, talking, chatting and refusing authority.

In school A, a boy's comprehensive in outer London, 101 incidents were recorded in two monitoring periods in the

School disruption widespread, six-year study shows

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Disruption among pupils in schools appears to be rampant and may be much greater than suggested in the media according to research conducted over the past six years by academics at London University.

It found that although the disruptive behaviour did not take the form of violence or aggression against teachers, it was in a sense more pervasive and undermining, consisting of inactivity and an unwillingness or inability to learn in the way teachers wanted.

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"Yet paradoxically neither school was obviously disorderly and in both there was evidence that the majority of pupils were learning satisfactorily", he said. When teachers talked about acts of disruption they meant rowdiness, abuse, bad language, talking, chatting and refusing authority.

In school A, a boy's comprehensive in outer London, 101 incidents were recorded in two monitoring periods in the

Youth culture 'will alter'

By Our Education Correspondent

Big changes in youth culture, its music, clothes and tribal customs, were forecast yesterday as a result of the relative poverty of today's young people compared with their affluent predecessors in the 1960s.

Young people would stay at school until the age of 16 but would go on to the Youth Training Scheme for one or two years, Mr Stuart MacLure, editor of the *Times Educational Supplement*, said. From there they were likely to enter a world in which they would be employed sometimes but not all the time.

Speaking yesterday at the opening session of the education section, Mr MacLure, the association's president, said that this change was likely to affect family life.

"When we had the idea of trying out a few computers on the patients we hardly dared hope for the response we had got, yet patients leaving Stoke Mandeville are going out and buying their own computers."

Science report page 10

temporary jobs, legal and illegal, with periods of elation and hope, poverty and despair."

"The reduced spending power of young people is in itself going to bring about profound changes in the youth culture, the music, the clothes, the tribal customs, which commerce has conjured from the short-lived affluence of the past 30 years."

Evren hits back at his critics

From Basit Gurdilek

President Kenan Evren of Turkey yesterday attacked critics of his handling of the country's planned return to civilian rule.

Speaking in the eastern city of Tunceli, he advised the "soft-style advisers" not to concern themselves with constant arguments about whether the present regime was democratic.

"We have never claimed that it was", he said, adding, however, that the regime had done its best to avoid exercising a rigid military rule.

He advised the "advisers" to turn their attention to the former politicians instead. And try to persuade them that their intrigues were in vain. He said Turkey's new democracy would be based on "parties and politicians with an entirely new outlook".

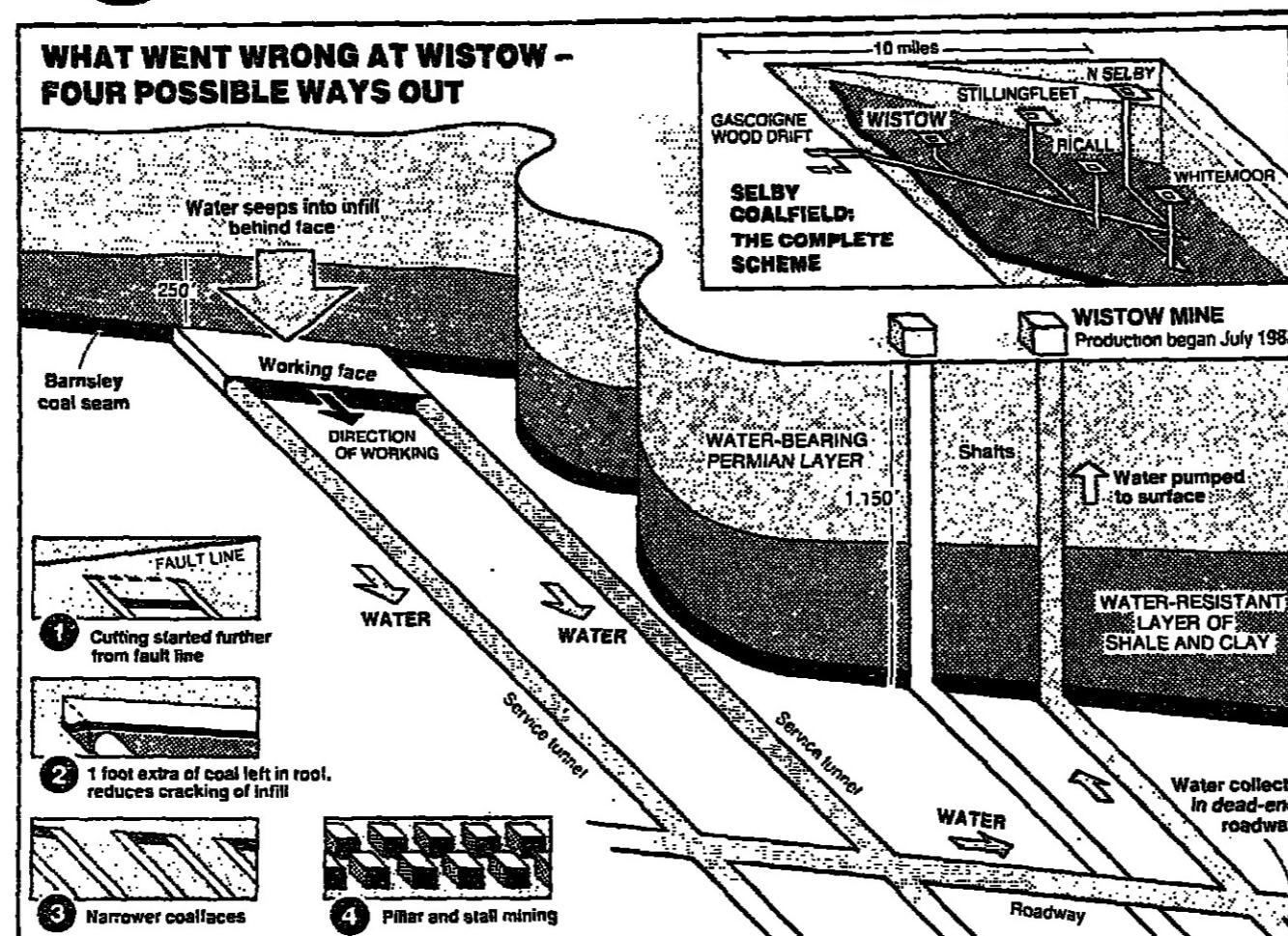
Meanwhile, the biggest challenge to

SPECTRUM

The new and prodigious Wistow Mine was producing coal at four times the national average speed when 18 million gallons of water suddenly flooded the NCB showpiece. The board, hoping to restart operations in a month's time, said the calamity was unforeseeable. Some experts disagree, writes Alan White

Pitting their wits against water

WHAT WENT WRONG AT WISTOW - FOUR POSSIBLE WAYS OUT



THERE is no such thing as a routine Saturday morning in a coalmine only three weeks old: engineers and production workers are still feeling their way, testing new machinery, working out new procedures. But July 23 was as routine as might be expected.

Wistow Mine, first of five pits in the new £1,000m Selby Coalfield, had been turning out prodigious amounts of coal from the single face that had been brought into use three weeks before. Already, it was producing coal at four times the national average speed; a Yorkshire Television camera crew were 300 yards below ground, making a film on the mine's promising start.

The crew were still filming when a cry, not of alarm, but of curiosity went up from the coalface. Water was seeping through the black wall of solid, high-quality coal, standing eight feet high and 135 yards across. There was no panic, but the mine was cleared of all but essential staff.

Within hours of the first trickle, a torrent of 2,500 gallons of water a minute was pouring through the coalface, flooding a sizable part of the mine. The affair became public knowledge about 24 hours later; immediately, fears were expressed among management and workers that the situation might be hopeless, that a project on which the coal industry's future credibility and prosperity depended might end up as a giant underground lake.

Theoretically, it should never have happened. Even now, the National Coal Board admit they do not know why it did happen, and the only way they will find out will be by a series of cautious experiments now being planned at the NCB's North Yorkshire headquarters outside Leeds.

Almost the entire coalfield is overlaid by a thick blanket of water-soaked limestone, known to the NCB engineers as the permian layer. Between this and the coal are layers of other rocks, shales and clay which effectively seal in hundreds of millions of gallons of water or at least they do so until mining begins.

To get at the coal you have to go down through the water-bearing rock. If it is disturbed or broken in any way, the water is released.

But the Wistow coal face should have been safe. The minimum safety limit is 160 feet between water-bearing rock and the coalface. At Wistow it was 250 feet, and to add to the safety margin, the coalface itself is a very narrow one.

Water always has been the hazard at Selby. It is a high investment programme aimed at having five "super-pits" working trouble-free high production coal faces and turning out thousands of tonnes a day.

When complete, well over £1,000m will have been spent on it. Like many large projects, it is costing rather more than expected, and is coming on stream rather late. At Wistow, this is almost entirely due to problems with water.

Merely to get the shafts at the pit sunk, the coal board's engineers had to import a huge amount of refrigeration plant to freeze solid the water in the limestone to prevent the shaft being flooded out even as it was being bored.

The ground surrounding it was frozen, the hole excavated and then lined with a special costly grouting cement to keep it watertight after the surrounding rocks have been allowed to thaw out.

At one point, the surrounding rocks, balked at the cavalier treatment meted out to them by the NCB's engineers, began breaking up around the shaft, causing the entire cement-lined tunnel to break away and start rising upwards.

Until that Saturday morning, they thought that they had beaten the water hazard apart from what miners dismiss as "nuisance water" - the trickles and small streams that trouble every colliery from time to time. But this was no trickle. As the alarm went up and the flow increased, a desperate search for spare pumps was set in motion all over the Yorkshire coalfield.

Lorries carrying ready-mix cement and lengths of piping turned up at the pithead. A newly-driven underground roadway, which will serve the third coalface to come into operation in a few months' time, was quickly turned into an emergency sump, capable of holding 20 million gallons of water, to save the rest of the workings from flooding.

At the worst moment, it was virtually brimful with 18 million gallons contained. It was no dramatic inrush, as in the infamous Loftus Colliery disaster of 10 years ago, but the sheer volume coupled with a seemingly endless flow of water caused several black moments for the rescue team.

For the moment at least, the battle has been won. Pumps are now taking water out more quickly than it is getting in. The flow of water has slowed considerably and the coal board say the mine should be working again within eight weeks.

The NCB team say the incident was not foreseeable, and with any luck was a one-off affair, something which will probably not happen again, especially since, as the work progresses, the mine will gradually move into deeper and

deeper coal reserves farther away from the water-bearing permian layer.

This is not a view shared by every expert. Some engineers outside the NCB say it is difficult to decide whether the coal board is being totally open and honest about the affair.

The seriousness with which the NCB take confidentiality can be judged from an incident a couple of weeks ago, when a Yorkshire artist photographed a collection of new colliery headgear. He was asked for his film, and it was returned minus the headgear negatives.

Dr John Stocks, of the Royal School of Mines, commented: "This makes it very difficult to give any sensible answers about how this incident is likely to affect the future of the Selby project. The NCB play their cards very close to their chest."

"But this must have some adverse effects on their cash flow. The pit is not earning money and putting the damage right will cost extra money. The project has already been subject to some unexpected delay because of the Wistow shaft problem."

"There was considerable euphoria about the project 10 years ago when it was seen as the answer to a lot of problems. Selby is not the attractive proposition that it once was."

"Nor am I saying that this is something which will blight the whole coalfield, but it will almost certainly increase the cost of getting to some of the coal, and I would say there is every possibility of it happening again. I think it very likely they will have to modify their working practices."

In the past, the Monopolies Commission has also been critical of the NCB for making over-optimistic assessments about the coalfield's ability to earn a very high return on the investment. But an indication of how divided opinion is outside the coal board comes from Professor John Tunnicliffe of Newcastle University's department of mining engineering.

He agrees with Dr Stocks that flooding could happen again, but says: "I think the NCB will be able to work at the rate they want to cover the investment. I cannot see it having any great effect at all."

Whether the incident could have been forecast is also causing some debate. The NCB say it could not, some outside sources say the science of subsidence and geological dynamics is such that it should have been possible to predict the inrush.

Says one prominent geologist working in North Yorkshire: "I cannot see why they could not foresee this. They are the leaders in this field, and from the outside, it does not seem to be an exceptional geological circumstance."

This is disputed by Mr Michael Eaton, North Yorkshire area director of Mines, who commented: "Even with the benefit of hindsight we do not think there was any way that this affair could have been predicted," he says.

He now has a list of options the gradually descend a ladder of desirability in terms of coal production and profit. Each potential remedy will be tried out in turn, and the success or otherwise of each step should give the mining engineers valuable clues about what caused the inrush.

To understand the proposed cures, it is necessary to understand the system of mining employed in the Selby field. It is a system known as "retreat mining" because the coalface gradually moves backwards towards the original starting point on one of the pit's underground service tunnels.

Basically, two parallel tunnels will be driven into the seam of coal. Selby's thick, pure seams are ideal for this. The tunnels are driven for a pre-determined length, and the space between them becomes the coalface.

Coal cutters move across the face, between the two tunnels rather like the shuttle on a loom. This leaves a void behind the coalface, and the strata above the coal seam is allowed to collapse in a controlled way, into this empty space. It is this which causes the familiar mining subsidence.

At Wistow the width of the coalface is 135 yards, and by mining standards this is narrow. The width was chosen to keep surface subsidence in the Selby area to within one metre. Similar considerations mean that only between 50 and 60 per cent of the coal will ever be mined.



Far left: the Selby pithead and, above, the revolutionary coalface cutter

The twin tunnels drilled for Wistow's first face stopped short of a known fault line. Again, this is common practice to avoid problems with either gas or water. The favourite theory is that this separation distance was not enough, and the fault line has slipped, allowing water to cascade through the coalface.

"If this does turn out to be the trouble, then the remedy is simple. We simply start farther away from the fault. We know exactly where it runs, and while we would lose some coal, the amounts involved would be minimal," said Mr Eaton.

"Alternatively, it may be the permin rocks shattering as they collapse behind the coalface, releasing the water. If this is the case, we can either leave an extra foot or so of coal in the roof, which does not sound a lot, but would have a significant effect, or we could work narrower coalfaces."

"We thought this shattering would be impossible, that the distance between the permian layer and the coal was too great for it to happen, but we also thought an inrush of water was impossible. As the impossible has happened once, we want to make sure it does not happen again." Leaving a foot of coal behind in the roof of the seam would theoretically reduce the mine's productivity by 12 per cent or so, but the NCB engineers believe this might be partly overcome by cutting more coal from the floor or sides of the seam.

SIMILARLY, resorting to narrower coalfaces would also hamper productivity because more sets of twin tunnels would have to be drilled.

If all else fails, the coal board will

abandon any attempts at bulk pro-

duction, and instead concentrate on

winning the coal bit by bit with pillar and stall mining, an old fashioned technique which basically involves drilling a series of tunnels into the seam. The only concession to high technology would be cutting machinery rather than picks and shovels. The coal would be got, but at a much slower rate.

But Mr Eaton said: "We should put the whole thing in perspective. If the worst comes to the worst, we are only talking about 15 million tonnes of coal. The total reserves at Selby are 300 million tonnes, so the coal at risk is only 5 per cent of the total."

Even so, the public image of the Selby project has been one of a mass producer of very cheap coal to feed the voracious appetites of the Yorkshire power stations. This image has been carefully fostered by the NCB who have nurtured their prodigy in the glow of constant publicity.

Now the first doubts have been raised. Everyone agrees that similar flooding could happen again. What no one can say is how serious it might be next time around. At best it is a nuisance. The NCB could have done without. At worst a low-tech ending to what was intended as a high-tech demonstration of the coal board's world-beating abilities.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Double trouble and yellow lines

We have already read trials of men who removed yellow clamps without asking the police's permission, but today we have something worse: a man who is accused of removing a double yellow line. Moreover is proud to print exclusive extracts from the trial.

Police witness: . . . was pointed on the road in 1980 by William Cartairs, a road-paint. er. It was the property of the Metropolitan Police. On July 14, I observed that a section of it was missing.

Counsel: Where was it?

Police: I don't know. It was missing.

Counsel: Where was it missing from?

Police: Sears Roebuck Road, W1, sir. Under the car belonging to the defendant, registration number SHE 1K.

Judge: A curious number.

Defendant: I hire it out a lot to Arabs, sir. It looks like SHEIK. They love it.

Judge: Quiet! You will get your turn in a moment.

Counsel: No further questions.

Clerk: Call the defendant.

Defendant: Here I am, sir. That was a short moment to be sure.

Judge: Quiet!

Defendant: I'm sorry. I was under the impression that it was my turn to . . .

Judge: You speak when you are asked questions.

Defendant: That seems fair. Fire away.

Counsel: You are Seamus Daldy, of somewhere in Kilburn, and an Irish citizen?

Defendant: I am that.

Counsel: What is your profession?

Defendant: In Ireland I was a motor dealer, sir, but I heard that there were any amount of openings on British TV and radio for bright men with Irish accents, so over I came. Sadly, things have not turned out as I hoped, and I am now forced to run a car hire firm with a turnover of many millions of pounds. Still, it's not the same. Not that I envy Terry, of course.

Counsel: Quite. And on July 14 you parked your car in Sears Roebuck Road, W1, on a double yellow line?

Defendant: No, sir. I parked my car there, but there was no double yellow line.

Counsel: I suggest to you that you found the double yellow line when you arrived, that you scraped away the yellow line and then parked in the space thus formed!

(Silence.)

Judge: Well, Mr Daldy? Answer the question.

Defendant: He hasn't asked me a question, sir.

Judge: (Consulting notes.) True. Would you like to ask him a question, Mr Chambers?

Counsel: Did you scrape away the yellow line?

Defendant: No. (Sensation in court.)

Counsel: (Brevily sarcastic) Are you asking the court to believe that the authorities had painted all of Sears Roebuck Road except the bit you wanted to park on? Are you seriously suggesting that a space the size of a car had specially been left? Do you want us to think that William Cartairs, road-painter, had left a gap for artistic effect? Can pigs fly? Is the moon made of cheese? What porridge ate John Keats?

Judge: All right, Bill, steady on. You're too old to get railed by the Irish.

Counsel: I'm sorry, Colin. Things haven't been too easy recently. What with the wife leaving me, the children taking to drugs and Barbican Puzzle losing the 2.30 at Newbury, I've been under some stress.

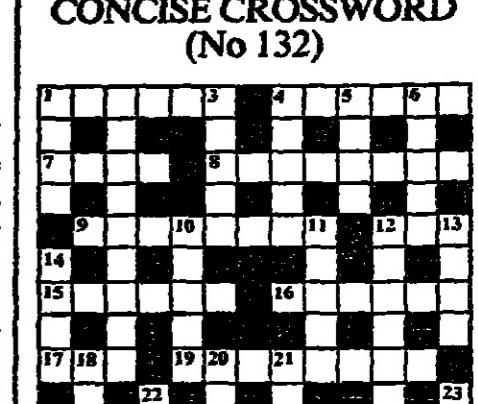
Judge: I understand. I had a couple of hundred on Barbican Puzzle myself.

Defendant: A no-hoper. You should have had your money stacked on Glue Sniffer, like I did.

Judge: Quiet in court! This is intolerable.

(More tomorrow.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 132)



ACROSS: 1. Weep heavily (4). 2. Brown flour (9). 3. Larva (5). 4. Alluring woman (5). 5. Mental calmness (8). 6. Diver's tank (5). 7. Hazards (5). 8. Book of maps (5). 9. M20 charge (5). 10. Vol. gentile (3). 11. Stopper (4). 12. Frighten (5). 13. Bucket (4). 14. Paper cutters (8). 15. Scandal pilot (8). 16. Perform (4). 17. Girl (3). 18. Frighten (5). 19. Stopper (4). 20. Perform (4). 21. Magic formula (5). 22. Swindler (4). 23. Perform (4). 24. Dismay (5). 25. Dismay (5). 26. Bucket (4). 27. Perform (4).

DOWN: 1. Wrote heavily (4). 2. Brown flour (9). 3. Larva (5). 4. Alluring woman (5). 5. Mental calmness (8). 6. Diver's tank (5). 7. Hazards (5). 8. Book of maps (5). 9. M20 charge (5). 10. Vol. gentile (3). 11. Stopper, 12. Frighten, 13. Bucket, 14

WEDNESDAY PAGE

Barry Manilow arrived in England yesterday. Two women are ready for him.

St Barry's disciples

"A bumper helping of Manilow to you all..." "Have a very Barry Christmas..." The 17,000 members of the BMIFC (Barry Manilow International Fan Club) UK have their own special language as well as their own special quarterly magazine called *Prelude*. The operation is managed by Mollie and Lynn, two humorous women in their forties, who are coy about revealing their surnames or the stories behind their broken marriages but forthcoming on the subject of their hero, the bearded-thin warbler with the rippling blonde hair, who has just entered the *Guinness Book of Records* for the fastest ever Broadway show sell-out.

Manilow is known variously as Mr Magic and The Housewives' Head-trob.

"He's a very special person," Lynn said. "It's going to sound really corny to say that sometimes someone comes along who has that extra special charisma, but that's what Barry is. I think he should be called Saint Barry, don't you?"

The Surbiton office of BMIFC (UK) is wall to wall Manilow mania with enough posters, photographs and mementos of BM to keep the 17,000 in a permanent swoon. In some of the posters, Barry's blue eyes under expert lighting have turned Maltese brown, giving him the look of a sick camel. Mollie said this was because, unlike vainer performers, Barry allows photographs to be taken during his concerts and the results aren't always perfect.

Before Mr Magic entered their lives, Mollie and Lynn were part-time secretaries. In 1978, they went to Barry's first British concert at the London Palladium and became so devoted that Arista, Barry's record company, asked them to take over his fan club.

"It was going to be a hobby," said Mollie, "just something we did a couple of evenings a week." But as the club grew from 535 members to a figure topped only by the Elvis Presley fan club, it became clear that Barry needed Mollie and Lynn's full-time attention.

Lynn continued her office job for a while, clamping on empty earphones and wearing a busy expression as she did fan club correspondence. She got the sack when this was discovered and then she and Mollie set up the Surbiton office, funded partly by the £5 fan club subscriptions and partly by Barry's personal management company, which chips in with the odd Telex machine.

Last year, they went to all 14 United Kingdom Manilow concerts and organized conventions, includ-



Mollie, left, and Lynn not completely fulfilled by motherhood

ing one at the Blackpool Pantomime where the fans played Barry Bingo. The prizes were all something to do with Barry, like a Barry T-shirt, and the numbers were matched to his songs like "Forty-four, Break down the Door."

This year they took a party of British fans to the Chicago convention. In addition to editing *Prelude*, they order badges and cassette stickers – a sample on Mollie's Renault – for bringing Barry closer to us".

Mollie's daughters, aged 19 and 21, and Lynn's daughter, aged 18, and son, aged 14, have got used to living with Manilow mania. "In any case," said Mollie, "neither of us ever felt completely fulfilled by motherhood."

I asked why Barry was different from other heart-throbs, such as Tom Jones or Burt Reynolds. (Mollie and Lynn grimaced at the mention of those two). Lynn recently told Barry himself exactly.

why he is so marvellous. "I'll try and explain it to you in the same way that I explained it to Barry," she said. "You see, what people love first about Barry is the music. Then they learn to love the man. His sex appeal is part of that love. With a sex symbol, you think the man is sexy and that's it – it's not a lasting thing. With Barry, it's something so wonderful that his fans need to communicate their feelings to each other. Every weekend, somewhere in this country, you'll find a group of Barry's fans meeting together."

"I don't think of it as a fan club. I think of it as a family."

Penny Perrick

The art of Asian vegetables

GUEST COOK



Madhur Jaffrey

This week, and for the next three, guest cooks will be writing for this space. Madhur Jaffrey, whose television series on Indian cooking was a huge success last autumn, gives us a sneak preview of her forthcoming book. The recipes in Eastern Vegetarian Cooking (Jonathan Cape, October 6) come from the near and Middle East as well as from the Indian sub-continent

If there is an haute cuisine of vegetarian foods, it exists today only in Asia. A restaurant I know in Kyoto, Japan, serves the most delicate savoury custards in tall covered cups. Imbedded inside the barely jelled gold, one may find a piece of wild mushroom or slivers of lemon rind and spinach. In Hyderabad, India, I have had tiny aubergines stuffed with a heady mixture of ground sesame seeds, tart tamarind pulp and an assortment of hot and sweet seasonings.

There is more, what about the stir-fried asparagus that I had, in Hongkong, glistening with droplets of the nuttiest sesame oil or the heavy breakfast pancakes from South India that are flecked with mustard seeds? And what about cheezura, that ancient Indian hot-sweet-sour-salty melange of nuts, dried fruit, toasted grains and seeds?

Vegetarian food in Asia is as good as it is because communities such as the Hindus, Buddhists and Jains have been honing it and improving it for at least a thousand years. Theoretically, the emphasis among these groups has been on non-violence, piety and health in actuality, what these vegetarians have been doing is to make their food so irresistibly delicious that nobody can keep their hands off it.

That includes me. I remember a Jain friend in school who sometimes brought boiled potatoes for lunch. That might not sound too promising. But then she peeled them, crumbled them coarsely with her fingers and, as we all drooled, took out a mysterious spice mixture from a packet and proceeded to sprinkle it over the potatoes. We all shared our lunches, but on the days my Jain friend brought her potatoes she tried her best to keep our greedy hands off them.

The vegetarian treasures that can be found in Asian cuisines are such a contrast to the dull and dry dishes that clutter up many of the so-called "health food" restaurants of the West. It was this, I suppose, that prompted me to write my new book, *Eastern Vegetarian Cooking*. This book is not just for vegetarians. Here are a few recipes from the book:

Carrots with raisins and dates (Iran)
Serves four

may be used to make vegetable pakoras – flowerets of cauliflower, slices of aubergine, slices of peeled potato or sweet potato, onion rings, green beans, slices of green pepper, and even fiery hot red peppers. Pakoras should be eaten while they are hot and crisp or else they turn soggy.

Dhalis – vegetable pakoras Serves four to six

For the batter
155 g (5 1/2 oz) gram flour
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1/4 teaspoon ground turmeric
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
3/4 teaspoon coriander
3/4 teaspoon whole cumin seeds or whole cumin seeds
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
Vegetable oil for deep frying
Vegetables

Peel the carrots and slice slightly diagonally, into 7 mm (1/4 in) thick ovals. Cut the onion in half lengthwise and then cut the halves crosswise into 7 mm (1/4 in) thick half rings.

Melt the butter in a 20 cm (8 in) frying pan over a medium-low flame. Turn the heat to medium and put in the carrots, onion, raisins and dates. Stir and fry gently for five minutes. Add the salt and sugar. Stir and fry for another four to five minutes or until the carrots are just tender and the onion is soft.

Lentil salad is made all over the Middle East. It can be stored in the refrigerator for several days and is excellent to take on picnics.

Lentil salad
Serves eight

450 g (1 lb) dried whole green lentils
1 teaspoon ground cumin seeds

21/2 teaspoons salt
4 spring onions
4 to 41/2 tablespoons lemon juice

1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
120 ml (4 fl oz) olive oil

In a large pot (3 to 4 litres/6 to 8 pints) combine the lentils with 1 litre/2 pints of water.

Add the cumin, one teaspoon of the salt and bring to the boil. Cover, simmer gently for about 50 minutes or until tender. Remove the cover and let the lentils cool a bit. Slice the spring onions in very fine rounds half way up their green sections.

When lukewarm, add the remaining salt, the lemon juice, and black pepper, oil, parsley, and spring onions.

Sift and cool. Serve at room temperature or cold.

Almost any fresh vegetable

Cleaning up the house...and the dirty phone calls

FIRST PERSON

Beryl Hugill

The sunlit honeysuckle-bowered Chelsea patio was littered with the leavings of the previous night's meal – green pasta by congealed in a bright pink tomato sauce. Mounds of washing-up

wormed a great mountain in the kitchen; the hob swam in oil; burning ashtrays, damp towels and dirty clothes made a trail from bedrooms to bathrooms and, not to put too fine a point on it, the khaki carpets in the hall and dining-room were coloured with the glistening droppings from two fluffy, cat-sized Maltese terriers.

If you thought that I had become some born-again slut in this bijou residence just round the corner from a certain person's home in Flood Street, you would be wrong. The certain person would have been pleased to discover that I had priced myself into a new career and that the chaos that greeted me that hot morning fifth by clearing the kitchen and patio, and completed the first stage of shovelling up the eliminations of the household pets.

However, I was beginning to feel that certain satisfaction that comes with creating order out of chaos and, a cup of tea later, shoved all the dirty laundry I could find into a

washing machine and went on to the next job of cleaning the two bathrooms and three lavatories with a will.

Bed-making and cleaning the floors usually took me to one and two o'clock when I would hang out the washing and face a pile of ironing until it was time to fetch the other household pet from school.

Among a gathering of fashionable Chelsea mums and a sprinkling of au pairs, I waited at the tiny local primary school for my charge. He was obviously used to having his own way over everything, for despite my admittedly mild protestations, his favourite diet on arrival home seemed to be several dishes of ice-cream and jelly if

available.

If, later on, he required a meal, he would shout down from the master bedroom where he was settled watching television and expect me to bring food up the stairs on a tray, old-style servant fashion. My attempts to entertain him included two visits to the swimming baths, and a game of ball in the street which brought a threat from an elderly neighbour to fetch the police.

Finally, a brisk call came from the

same week a young West Indian girl, not long out of school, was employed. She had been hoping to work with mentally handicapped children, but failing that, had found this new job through a previous employer.

She was gentle and somewhat shy, so I did not fancy her chances with the wilful seven-year-old – but it did mean my own stint of housework and child-minding was over until I found other work.

As a way of life, chartering can be rather solitary, but I did relish the feeling of fitness and energy it gave me: I even lost a few pounds in weight although that may have been more to do with the heatwave. The work is not, however, well remunerated.

Either way, if any reader of *The Times* thinks I have the makings of a superior *femme de ménage* and would be just the person to beautify a home, my experience has taught me to lay down certain conditions of service: no children under the age of 18 and definitely, very definitely, no animals who have not been trained to control their toilet habits.

Where next? Perhaps Flood Street...

washing machine and went on to the next job of cleaning the two bathrooms and three lavatories with a will.

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Joanna Lumley is on holiday in Kashmir



Up in smoke

A weekend foray to Hampshire showed that, not content with grubbing up hedges, farmers are now burning them down. Miles and miles have gone as ill-controlled straw-burning fires swept across bridle paths and by-roads, sometimes invading gardens and even threatening houses. Fire brigades have been so hard pressed that reinforcements have had to be summoned from neighbouring counties, to protect agricultural land and buildings which pay no rates. From all parts of the country I see complaints of the sun obliterated by the pall of smoke overhanging the countryside. In a national Burn Straw contest, four-fifths of the competing farmers showed ignorance of the basic National Farmers Union code, not knowing the maximum areas for fires, the required width of fire-breaks or the penalties for offensive fires. Though those can be up to a £1,000 fine under local by-laws, or two years' imprisonment under the Health and Safety at Work Act.

Clown and gown

We may be going down laughing. Study of the evening classes brochure suggests the recession has brought us to the verge of a resurgence of clowning. A series of courses offered by the City Literary Institute includes "Clowning, Finding a Character" and "Clowning-Building an Act". It also offers a course in juggling and another in acrobatics. Clowning courses are also available at Barrow Hill School, NW8, where clowning and juggling will be taught together. Time could be short.

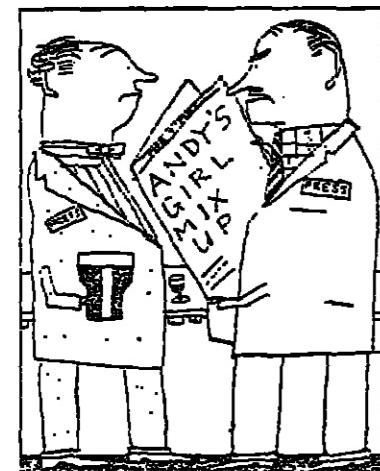
Blank prose

We have just received for review from Blackwell's a volume entitled *Reconstructing Literature*, edited by Professor Laurence Lerner. We only know this from the jacket, because this piece of literature is so much reconstructed that the title page is blank, and so is every page to p26. Then you reach the chapter "The Fallacy of the Abolished Author". Fallacy it may be, but they are doing their best.

Just imagine

Another publisher getting its pages in a twist is Methuen. The entire print run of Tony Coulthard and Baz Kershaw's *Engineers of the Imagination* is having to be recalled because it was delivered with the pages printed the wrong way round. This is a pity because the book was meant to be sold during the current London International Festival of Theatre. It explains the theatrical effects obtained by Welfare State International in their show *Raising the Titanic*.

BARRY FANTONI



Bitter twist

The religious book publishers, Lion Publishing, are improbably listed in the autumn export edition of *The Bookseller* as producing a children's book called *Thank You for a Drink of Milk*. The proof reader should read St Peter: "Like new-born babes, long for the pure spiritual milk..."

A warning on a pay packet reads: "Note Carefully - If anyone in a packet does not agree with Net Wages, at once inform the Paying Officer before breaking seal" (their emphasis). No, it was not issued by an Irish company.

Precisely

In Mobile, Alabama, preparations are under way for a British Fair in October. The *Mobile Press Register* reports: "The Society for Creative Anachronism will recreate live presentations... in an exhibit called Kings and Queens of England". Relationships will be made in every instance, such as Mobile's Athelstan Club", said Lee McCoy, who is in charge of promotions for the fair. "Athelstan was King of Wessex and grandson of Albert the Great who reigned in the 10th century".

When I announced a competition to design a symbol for the European Currency Unit (ECU), I did not know that someone had already done the job. John Chambers, head of the special projects section of the BBC engineering research department, devised this symbol for the ECU four years ago when compiling a complete list of characters for a teletext system to cover all European languages. His symbol appears, with "temporary" status, in documents of the European Broadcasting Union and International Radio Consultative Committee. That it shall announce tomorrow.

PHS

Don't just polish - abolish

by Ralph Harris

Aside from its success against inflation, Mrs Thatcher's government has made disappointing progress in restoring vigour to the economy. A start has been made with denationalization and trade union reform, but state spending has not been cut, local government is as big as ever and little has been done to free the labour market or to move welfare policy from universal provision to help for those in need.

I do not believe that, whatever the International Labour Organization's objections, we could not get rid of wages councils, which set minimum rates for almost three million people, mostly in retailing - 60 per cent of the adult rate at 16, against 20 per cent in Switzerland - and which gravely damage youth employment prospects.

It seems strange that a government which professes to support a market economy should not have taken positive action against impediments that raise unit labour costs (employment protection, national insurance, trade union restrictive practices); that obstruct mobility (rent control, regional development, council house subsidies) or that reduce take-home pay (high taxes on low earnings) to little, if anything, above social benefits.

In most cases, the Government has not changed its policies. It has been diverted from its objectives by legislature and bureaucratic obstruction.

Modern government is appallingly complex and has an insatiable appetite for legislation. In a single recent year, 70 new Acts of Parliament and 2,000 "statutory instruments" were spewed over 6,000

printed pages. Here is a major source of power for civil servants who can blind even the brightest ministers with almost incomprehensible legalistic jargon in which they, as narrow specialists, are always more expert.

Suppose a company had to get approval for amending its articles of association every time it wanted to change a price, alter a product, withdraw a service, borrow money or make any one of hundreds of day-to-day adjustments to its operations. Imagine the staff it would need, the delay and distraction leading to virtual paralysis.

Yet we would all agree that bureaucrats cannot be allowed the range of discretion in dispensing state resources and authority that businessmen enjoy in balancing the interests of customers and shareholders. Because there is no government equivalent to the commercial price-profit system to keep civil servants in check, we have ceaseless legislative amendment and intolerable pressure on the parliamentary timetable to permit tardy adjustment to changing circumstances or a new government's policy.

These necessary restraints are so lethal to flexibility and change that government should be confined to the barest minimum of functions which it has to finance through taxation because a free market cannot provide them. The cumbersome processes of amendment and reform should therefore take second place to outright repeal of unnecessary, obstructive statutes.

Like the Mikado's Lord High Executioner, the non-party repeal group in the House of Lords has "a little list of society offenders that never would be missed". In addition to the job-destroying wages councils, its targets include the restrictive Shops Act, the antique Truck Tax, the paternalistic licensing laws, such monopolies as the solicitors in conveyancing and opticians in selling spectacles, to say nothing of the Rent Acts that have shrunk the housing market and still impede the mobility of labour.

We are left with the problem of reducing taxes as the golden route to reducing costs throughout the economy and sharpening incentives, especially for the lower paid to work rather than live off social benefits. To search out savings, we should examine every welfare and local government service now provided "free" and ask why most people should not choose and pay through direct fees and insurance rather than indirectly through inflated taxes and rates. The way to help the poor is not to give everyone else free services but to top up low incomes and reduce everyone's taxes.

The aim should be to halve public expenditure and reduce total taxation to the safe limit of 25 per cent of national income. A subordinate aim is to restore politics to a part-time job suitable for gentlemen and lords, that is for unpaid amateurs who have to earn their living in the real world and pay their share of (lower) taxes like the rest of us. Lord Harris of High Cross is General Director of the Institute of Economic Affairs. He was created a life peer in 1979 and sits on the crossbenches.

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Bernard Levin: the way we live now

For Liberals read lemmings



David Steel, combining Jo Grimond's attractiveness with the toughness of Jeremy Thorpe, and now attacked by the power-haters in his ranks.

entrusted with the job of throwing out Bradford Labour Party those members judged guilty of lese-Militant and the welkin echoes with the sound of prominent Labour figures reaffirming their commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament, withdrawal from the EEC, and the nationalization of the means of production, distribution and ex-

change. On the morrow of the election, I pointed out - and it required no great skill in divination to do so - that the meagre number of seats gained by the Alliance should be ignored, and attention concentrated instead on the almost incredible number of votes which they had attracted and which showed to the least discerning eye that the shape of British politics had changed fundamentally. And it is at this precise moment, with the Opposition terminally diseased and the Alliance, if its leaders and members can only keep their heads, perfectly placed to overhaul Labour at the next election and to win the one after, that the Liberals have apparently decided to embrace euthanasia.

Criticism of Mr Steel and his leadership is widespread; some of his members are demanding that he should not be allowed the final control over the contents of the party manifesto that he at present enjoys; others are insisting that the thrust of the party's policy is entirely misplaced, and that they should go to the country next time on a

programme of repairing cracked paving-stones in shopping-precentics and saving the whale; others again think that the whole idea of the Alliance was a mistake and that if it had not been for their SDP allies the Liberals would have won the election outright; I am quite sure that the members of the constituency party in Liverpool who insisted on putting up a Liberal against the Alliance's official SDP candidate and thus gave the seat to a member of the Militant Tendency still feel proud of themselves and would do it again if they had the chance. And did I mention that when Mr Steel hinted that he would resign if his manifesto veto was removed, Mr Smith cheerfully declared that any more such hints would result in the party accepting the proffered resignation? No wonder Dr Owen is resisting the idea of a full merger of the two parties; who wants to be a Siamese twin with a brother who insists on drowning himself?

What is it about parties and politicians of the left, particularly the moderate left, that seems to make most of them instinctively reluctant to seek power, so that however passionately they state their intentions of winning, their actions, again and again, betray them to defeat? The only thing that was absolutely certain about Mr Foot's leadership of the Labour Party, and for that matter Mr McGovern's selection as Presidential candidate by the Democratic Party, is that they

Mr Grimond could never teach the Liberal Party the time of day; he was far too gentle a character. Mr Thorpe was made of sterner stuff, but the hour had not struck. In Mr Steel the party has a leader who combines the attractiveness of the former with the toughness of the latter (look at the consummate ease with which he dabbled the SDP out of anything remotely resembling a fair share of winnable seats), but because he knows what politics is about and how success in it can be achieved, he is now under attack from the power-haters in his ranks, who are half in love with casuist death and still convinced that if only they explain to the nation frequently enough how site value taxation works the nation will troop into the polling-booths and vote for it. (Will all those Liberal correspondents who wish to explain it to me kindly put SVT in the top left-hand corner of the envelope so that my secretary can throw their letters away unopened?)

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The heat is on, but the Sun King stays free

Mexico City
Many people are convinced that when he completed his six years in office last December former Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo had become one of the world's 10 richest men.

Whether this is true or not, the fact is that most Mexicans believe it, an index of the way official corruption is viewed in a country where, according to the figures, the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party has won at least three out of every four votes cast in the last half century of general elections.

"They are all thieves from the president down", is a commonplace heard up and down the country from Mexicans of every social class.

Very conscious of the disrupt in which the government of his predecessor was held, the current President, Miguel de la Madrid, came to power on December 1 last year pledging vociferously to set about the "moral renovation" of Mexico.

But Mexicans had heard all this before. Senor Lopez Portillo had made the same promises when he took to the presidency in 1976.

"We will hold off on the bribes for a couple of months, then it will be back to business as usual", was the word among officers of Mexico City's notoriously corrupt police force at the end of last year. Few Mexicans doubted this would prove

to be the case for corruption generally in their country.

But now, nine months into President de la Madrid's government, that scepticism has turned out to be a little unjustified. Yes, policemen do continue with their time-honoured extortion of money from offenders; at the end of every month the government still provides journalists loyal to its political line with cash-cramped envelopes; and senior officials persist in indulging in lavish dinners at a time when the bulk of the population have been entrusted to tighten their belts for the good of their country's economy.

Nevertheless, there have as yet been no major allegations of corruption among officials in the present administration and, more to the point, President de la Madrid has been meeting out harsh retribution to members of Senor Lopez Portillo's government.

Most spectacularly, the popular press having bayed long for his blood, a childhood friend of Senor Lopez Portillo's was recently jailed for an alleged multi-million dollar fraud.

Described by Portillo as "an exemplary Mexican", the former head of Mexico's nationalized oil company, Senor Jorge Diaz Serrano, was locked up in a Mexico City jail on July 30 pending trial for the alleged flching of US\$34m (about £22m) on the purchase of two oil tankers.

Another old friend of Lopez Portillo's is Mexico City's former

police chief, Colonel Arturo Durazo. Between 1976 and 1982, earning a salary of \$2,300 a month, Colonel Durazo managed to accumulate enough money to purchase a \$14m holiday home on Mexico's Pacific coast - known among local inhabitants as "The Parthenon" - and a palatial residence on the outskirts of the Mexican capital, valued at considerably more.

The Mexican Attorney General recently revealed that Senor Diaz Serrano owns at least 15 homes - one with a private runway - in Mexico, the United States and France. Nevertheless, Diaz Serrano insists that he is innocent. In a recent newspaper article written from prison, he said that never had he been able to sympathize so fully with the characters in Kafka's novels.

If President de la Madrid is serious about "moral renovation", it is being whispered, why does he stop there, why doesn't he bring former President Lopez Portillo to justice too? And not just Lopez Portillo but other of his colleagues in what is generally considered to have been an immensely nepotistic administration.

Lopez Portillo recently left Mexico for one of the many houses he is said to own in Spain in a private jet owned by his close friend, and mayor of Mexico City under his government, Senor Hank Gonzalez.

Senor Gonzalez is known to have a huge multi-million dollar mansion, among a host of other properties, in the United States.

Another old friend of Lopez Portillo's is Mexico City's former

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

How the devil could be proved right

Although it's academic at this season, I don't think I would go skating with Mr Len Murray. Last week the TUC general secretary's description of his first formal encounter with dreaded Norman Tebbit since the general election was that his team were "still testing the ice", which "hadn't broken yet". When I went skating I think we tested the ice in the hope that it would hold, not in the hope that it would break. But the contrast between the definition of objectives and the assessment of progress was perhaps symptomatic of the tensions within the TUC about the propriety of supping with the devil.

On the morrow of the general election I found myself raking over the embers on the BBC World Service with Mr David Bassett, the Godfather of the Labour Party. I speculated that since the trade union movement existed to promote the interests of its members and not to chase the moonbeams of political power, either its present bosses would soon swallow their pride and get down to serious talk with Mr Tebbit, or they would be replaced by those who would. I was sharply informed that I was displaying my ignorance of the union movement. Ah well, as we all know, six weeks is a long time in politics, and two months almost an eternity.

The agenda of last week's talks was judiciously chosen. The TUC has long professed to share, in principle, the Government's enthusiasm for cashless pay, and its distaste for legalized enforcement ought to strike an answering chord. As for the other item - the rate of pay for the Youth Training Scheme - the unions have been given an effective veto, for better or worse, and if the scheme is to get off the ground some meeting of minds will be essential. The more delicate matter of future industrial relations legislation was kept under wraps.

There is, however, or at least there may be, more to this than meets the eye. Years ago George Woodcock once commented to me that the unions sometimes found it easier to deal with Tory governments than with Labour, since Labour ministers claimed to know all about the unions, whereas Tory governments did not. But in the case of Norman Tebbit they are confronted with a Tory whose personal experience of the inner workings of British trades unionism exceeds that of many modern Labour leaders.

Indeed I have always suspected that this is precisely why the Labour Party has paid him the compliment of elevating him into an incarnation of evil. They can bear a Tory from the wrong side of the tracks. They can even, at a pinch, sit down with a card-vote.

But Norman Tebbit can afford to wait. Sooner or later the TUC chiefs will recognize that the erosion of the union's power base cannot be attributed solely to unemployment, and that the more effective democratic accountability which the Government is pressing on them, while it may curb their personal styles, could in the end prove the only way to restore their credibility.

The author was Economic Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government.

Paul Pickering

Now the East is heading North

As the Year of the Pig reaches the midway point, Britain's Chinese population are already limbering up their dragon dances to usher in the perhaps poignantly named Year of the Rat. For more and more businessmen are leaving what they see as the sinking ship of their native Hongkong which is resigning itself to eventual communist rule. Many are heading for, of all places, Manchester.

Determined that their businesses are not going to benefit the Peking government, they are pouring money into the George Street area of the city. Plans to turn Manchester into a freeport, just like Honkers, would help complete the process of Enter 'Dragon' in deepest Lancashire.

Before long the new colonials could start to explore Bolton, Bootle and even Wigan. Annie Walker's Rovers Return will be brimming with happy orientals hurling the odd hatchet into the dartboard, electing Albert Tatlock as Tai Pan and demanding fish and maw and jellied duck feet from an astonished Bet Lynch the barmaid.

"We even now have Chinese-owned farms in Cheshire cultivating special Cantonese vegetables for our restaurants," said the chairman of Manchester's Chinese Education, Culture and Community Centre, Lorci Lee. "They grow winter melons and mustard greens. Last new year we borrowed a giant inflatable pig from Pink Floyd to celebrate; you should have seen it. I don't know what we will do this coming year."

An immense airborne rat may not have the same happy effect as it soars high above Balloon Street. "We have the longest dragon in England," adds the unstoppable Mr Lee. "It was the longest in Perth until 1985 until Chinatown in Perth decided to add a foot to them for Prince Charles. We also have our own dance troupe, not like Gerrard Street in Soho."

"We are working hard to get the proposed Chinese consulate for Manchester. We have not been affected by the recession like Liverpool. We want a direct flight from Manchester to Hongkong, and there is talk of a freeport. Because of the uncertainty in Hongkong people are buying buildings here."

Hongkong itself could be the ultimate Chinese take-away, spirited around the world to Manchester. "Lots of businesses have started up and there is money coming in," said Douglas Rogerson of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. "We now have a Chinese branch in Manchester with Cantonese-speaking staff and opening on Sundays."

A cheerful Arthur Wong of the city's Hongkong Government Office said: "I have heard about the freeport but nothing is officially confirmed. We do have conflicts, but we don't have the same kind of difficulties as Gerrard Street." Mr Rogerson is confident that undesirable elements will be kept out of the thriving community.

Mr Lee commented: "We do have conflicts, but we don't have the same kind of difficulties as Gerrard Street."

"Pigs might fly," said my more cynical Sino friend. But then one already has, a large pink one, high above Manchester.

Court
light

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LOOK WHO'S TALKING

One of the ambitions of the incoming Conservative Government in 1979 was to cut the trade unions down to size. Progress has been made. The first, the easy, part was to expel TUC heavyweights from the ante-chambers of Downing Street. They had become well dug in there through the informal practices of previous Conservative Governments and a succession of "social contracts" promoted by Labour Governments. The objection to the arrangement was two-fold. It gave excessive influence in matters of general policy to figures of dubious representative status; and this influence was given in return for undertakings or understandings on which the principals were not fully capable of delivering. The custom has passed away beyond, it is to be hoped, recall.

The other part of the process was to fend off disruptive trade union militancy on the shop floor. This was to be done by legislative reform, a developing series of measures pressing against the frontiers of trade union immunities and promoting internal trade union reform. However, the ally and principal agent in the reimposition of shop floor discipline, whether covariant or unconvenanted, has turned out to be the weakness of the labour market, one in seven out of work. The effect has been noticeable and in terms of working practices beneficial. To the extent however that it is a product of mass unemployment it is precarious and cannot

It is not a question of reviving

GDANSK THREE YEARS ON

The efforts of the banned trade union Solidarity to mark the third anniversary of the Gdansk accords and to protest at the government's refusal to consider discussions with Lech Wałęsa may not in themselves prove sufficient to compel the regime to effect a conciliation with the Polish people. Yet to preserve morale it is important to persevere, and underground Solidarity leaders, determined to continue their non-violent struggle, have recommended such undramatic measures as the go-slow which began yesterday in the Baltic shipyards.

It is questionable what impact the go-slow can have when the sluggish Polish economy has been in bottom gear since the imposition of martial law in December 1981. Workers on piece rates trying to feed their families at a time of food shortages and sharp price rises will not all be prepared deliberately to reduce their income still further.

Yet this moderate approach, far from being a sign of weakness, serves to confirm the moral superiority of Solidarity over the authorities. Their moral strength ensures that the Poles' determination to achieve their rights will survive General Jaruzelski as it survived his predecessors. The ruling Polish United Workers' Party has always found scapegoats on which to blame the shortcomings of the system - consigning former leaders to shameful obscurity - but continues to lose thousands of members every month. The public denigration of Lech Wałęsa, on the other hand,

PAKISTAN'S PATCHWORK OPPOSITION

Ever since the country was prised from British-ruled India, Pakistan has been hampered by internal quarrels. Two of the issues are basic to the national consensus that is required if the state is to prosper. First is the need for a functioning democracy instead of the disciplines of military rule, however much, in Asian conditions, that may be a temporary necessity. The other is the demand for greater autonomy among the country's component parts. Cutting across these, and perhaps no less divisive, for all the piety with which it is urged, is the share to be given to Islamic traditions in the process of government. Since he took power in 1977 General Zia has constantly postponed a promised return to democracy, has played down as best he could the rivalry between the constituent provinces, and has introduced for the first time his own interpretation of Islamic tradition.

Now the quarrels are erupting again with protests against martial law, sometimes in peaceful civil disobedience but frequently turning to sabotage and rioting. The Army has moved in, fire has been exchanged, more than a score of deaths are reported and opposition leaders thought likely to join in the protests have been summarily detained. All this has been inspired by the "Save Pakistan" movement, a rebirth of the now banned Movement for the Restoration of Democracy which gathered eight parties under its wing. Apart from some

obviously, be welcomed without reservation.

Even when cut down, however, the size of the trade union interest remains pretty big. Like other major interests in society it needs good and open channels of communication with the organs of government and vice versa. It is not right that in their relations with government trade union spokesmen should be systematically snubbed or that they should sulk. Now that the election is out of the way there are signs that both sides wish to get back to a more constructive posture.

When Mr Tebbit met Mr Murray and his colleagues last week to discuss certain strictly practical questions about the Youth Training Scheme and the repeal of the Truck Acts, he pronounced them to be more realistic and they him to be more flexible. Out of such civilities are rapprochements made. If the way can be cleared at next month's Trade Union Congress the trade union leadership should soon be in direct communication with ministers again over the full range of relevant matters including the next round of trade union legislation. One way Mr Tebbit and his colleagues could usefully facilitate the process is to counter any suggestion of vindictiveness in tinkering with trade union contributions to Labour party funds by showing an equal and opposite concern about the methods employed for corporate contributions to Conservative party funds.

It is not a question of reviving

a shadow council of state where trade union dignitaries may sound off on anything from relations with Chile to the contents of a wealth tax. It is a question of reviving functional consultation on a range of matters concerning which the trade unions are knowledgeable and their cooperation is desirable. An unwritten agenda would include, apart from the Tebbit legislation and the Youth Training Scheme, apprenticeships, the identification of employment-expansive sectors of the economy, and the insulation of essential services from industrial disputes.

Unruffled harmony in managing affairs of state is not to be expected, but neither is unnecessary discord to be welcomed. Democratic and open government works by promoting the dialogue of competing interests and paying attention to the bubble. A concerted approach is called for where possible, particularly at this juncture.

Society stands poised to receive the full impact of micro-electronic technology, which does not merely yield new products for new uses but will transform existing processes throughout industry and commerce and in every department of life. The social and institutional changes that this will entail are profound, and the technological revolution will take its character for good or ill from the capacity of society to respond and adjust not least at the workplace. How silly to enter with government and unions not on speaking terms.

While the "sober-minded" clergy merely proves that the regime's earlier claim that he was a "has-been" as unfounded as its present allegations that he is a millionaire trade-union tycoon.

General Jaruzelski would have us believe that it is marching Poland forward to "normalization" but it seems that most Poles are out of step. The Polish Writers' Union has now been dissolved; the authorities say it was "the spokesman of the anti-state opposition". A new union is to be formed excluding the awkward writers who persist in describing life as they see it, rather than as government officials say it ought to be.

Moscow looks with a jaundiced eye at developments in Poland since martial law was officially ended, but has produced no constructive suggestions for dealing with the situation. Speaking on Soviet television on Saturday, Leonid Zamyanin, head of the Central Committee's International Information Department, claimed that the underground Solidarity leaders were seeking to penetrate and subvert the Polish government - scarcely a vote of confidence in General Jaruzelski.

Coming from a former head of the official news agency TASS with considerable experience in the formulation of Soviet foreign policy, Mr Zamyanin's television comments have more than usual significance. He did not see the Pope's visit as a success for the regime, but claimed that the situation had since become more difficult because "certain aggressive circles in the Polish church" had become more active.

Bishop Tokarczuk has demanded a return to "truth, justice, freedom and peace" as the only way to encourage Poles to work harder. These are certainly the aims of Solidarity but General Jaruzelski has not persuaded the population that he shares them. Nor has he succeeded in winning over the West. A small part of Poland's foreign debt was rescheduled this month by Western bankers, but since half of the \$26,000 million owed depends on Western governments, General Jaruzelski finds himself as before caught between an intransigent overlord in Moscow and Western pressures to be more flexible in responding to the demands of the Polish people. Since they will not change their ideas, he must seek to win changes in Moscow.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duke of Edinburgh is to be the first patron of the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors. The Prince of Wales, president of the Royal Jubilee Trust, will preside at a meeting of the administrative council at 8 Buckingham Street, WC2, on November 23. The Duke of Edinburgh, patron and trustee, will attend receptions for young people who have reached the gold standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at St James's Palace on December 2.

Princess Alexandra will visit Royal Air Force Brooklands, Lincolnshire, on September 29.

A memorial and thanksgiving service for the life of Chris Cobbold will be held at the Church of St Bride, Fleet Street, on Tuesday, August 30 at noon.

Mr J. W. Partridge and Miss K. F. Blackmore The engagement is announced between Bill, only son of Mr and Mrs Bryan Partridge of Hastings, Sussex, and Katie, elder daughter of Mr Courtenay and Lady Pamela Blackmore, of Blackheath, London.

Mr M. H. Cave and Mrs D. L. Bedford The engagement is announced between Michael Hugh Cave, of Upper Ash, near Basingstoke, Hampshire, and Diana Louise Bedford, widow of M. A. (Tony) Bedford, of Old Barkfold, Plaistow, West Sussex.

Mr A. T. Leisk and Miss E. S. Staples The engagement is announced between Alexander Thomas, son of Mr John Leisk, OBE, of Laxey, Isle of Man, and Elizabeth Slain, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs R. E. Staples, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr D. Meikle and Miss H. Vigers The engagement is announced between David, elder son of the late Dr R. W. Meikle and of Mrs Meikle of Howden, North Humberside, and Anna Helen, daughter of the late Mr S. C. Vigers and of Mrs Vigers, of Reigate Heath.

Mr A. M. Paton and Miss S. E. Barker The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs D. C. Paton, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Susan, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Barker, of Elton, North Humberside.

Mr S. D. E. Peppiatt and Miss K. H. H. Kendall The engagement is announced between Stephen, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Peppiatt, of Wimbledon, London, and Karen, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Kendall, of St John's Wood, London.

Mr J. R. C. Perkins and Miss C. M. St. Aubyn-Sayer The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs R. M. Perkins of Sonning, and Catherine, daughter of Captain and Mrs J. H. St. Aubyn-Sayer, of Charlminster.

Birthdays today

Lord Ashby, 79; Mr Paul Barker, 48; Mr Carlo Curley, 31; Sir Michael Franklin, 56; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, 61; Commander Sir Clive Lothian, 81; Mr Justice Milmo, 75; Major-General W. J. Officer, 80; Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Saunders, 89; Air Chief Marshal Sir Augustus Walker, 71.

Tower Bridge and tenement take awards

Tower Bridge, London, and a Glasgow tenement are among five historic buildings to receive the British Tourist Authority's heritage awards. It was announced yesterday. The awards are for restoration or conversion of historic properties open to the public.

Tower Bridge has attracted more than half a million visitors since its high-level walkways and machinery rooms were opened as a tourist attraction last year.

At the other end of the scale, the Tenement House, Glasgow, retains the authentic atmosphere of a typical small early twentieth-century home in the Scottish city, with most of the original fittings and belongings of the family who lived there for 50 years.

Other awards go to Bodysgallen, an historic house converted into an hotel near Llandudno, North Wales; Newby Hall and Gardens, North Yorkshire; and the Ulster-American Folk Park, near Omagh, Northern Ireland.

Commemorative service

The Royal Assent to the Emancipation Bill, given on August 28, 1833, will be commemorated in Westminster Abbey at evensong on Sunday, August 27, and afterwards at a short service at the statue of Sir Thomas Baring in the North aisle.

Canon Trevor Berriman will officiate. Sir Bernard de Bussan will read the lesson and an address will be given by Mr M. J. Dent. Jasper Clarke will present an inscribed rose bowl to the organ on behalf of the Buxton family.

Marriages

Mr S. R. Crookenden and Miss A. G. M. Pragnell The marriage took place on August 20, 1983, at St Gregory's Church, Stratford-on-Avon, of Mr Simon Crookenden, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Crookenden, and the late Mrs Jean Crookenden, and stepson of Mrs Elizabeth Crookenden of Staveley, Cumbria, and Miss Sarah Pragnell, daughter of Mr and Mrs George Pragnell, of Stratford-on-Avon. Father Placid Stanion officiated. David Carlisle was best man.

Mr D. J. S. Fleck and Miss B. A. Roy The marriage took place on August 17 at Fulham, of Mr David Fleck, of Putney, formerly of Bahrain, and Miss Barbara Anne Roy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter M. Roy, of Exeter, formerly of Trinidad.

A reception was held at 37 Golden Manor, W7.

Mr J. H. Hannan, MP and Mrs V. Waschape The marriage took place on August 23 in London, followed by a service of blessing in the Crypt Chapel, Palace of Westminster, of Mr John Hannan, MP, and Mrs Vanessa Waughope.

University news

Oxford Professor Keith William Morton, MA (Oxford), PhD (New York), professor of applied mathematics at Reading University, has been elected to the chair of numerical analysis from April 1, 1984.

Oxford class list

Lindsey Shaw, of St Edmund Hall, Oxford, formerly of Mackie Academy, Stevenage, was awarded an *aggregatus* in the final honours school of English language and literature, the class list for which was published on August 5.

Archaeology

Welsh cave yields another secret

Further early human remains have been found at a cave in Wales, where last year parts of two Neanderthal children were discovered. The specimens, from an older child and possibly an adult, were found with stone tools from about a quarter of a million years ago.

The finds, from Pontnewydd Cave near Rhyl, consist of two more teeth in this case first premolars from the left lower jaw. They have been identified by Dr Christopher Stringer of the Natural History Museum as being from a child aged 12 and from someone who may have been an adult.

Both teeth have large crowns, and fit well into the known range of tooth size and form for *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis*. The new finds bring to three the minimum number of Neanderthalers known from Pontnewydd Cave: the 12-year-old, indicated for the first time this year; a younger child aged about nine, found last year (*The Times*, November 27, 1982); and the adult. Since the remains found last year need not

necessarily have come from the same person as the child's jawbone found in 1980, more than three persons may be represented in the human remains so far recovered.

Dr Stephen Green of the National Museum of Wales, who is directing the excavation, now in its sixth season, said: "This shows us that human skull fragments could also be preserved at Pontnewydd, as well as the jaw and maxilla remains found in 1980 and 1982". He said one other bone was part of a baby bear's skull.

The stone tools from the excavations include handaxes, scrapers, cores and flakes of a late Acheulean industry. Dr Green said: "A variety of volcanic rocks were used as raw material, while this year for the first time a flint handaxe was found, which must have been brought in from further east in the chalk zone of England."

The excavation was funded by the British Academy, and the Society of Antiquaries, and the adult. Since the remains found last year need not

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The Pontnewydd remains are roughly contemporary with the Swanscombe skull, the most famous early human specimen from Britain, and with several well-known continental skulls, including those from Steinheim, Petralona and Taftauvel. Together these remains suggest that a close relative of modern humans was already in existence, and living throughout Europe from Greece and Spain to Britain, at a remarkably early date.

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He suggested that Samson could have had MG, because the pattern of weakness, followed by a surge of strength was consistent with the disorder. Moreover, there was a connection between autoimmune diseases and allografts. He added: "Delilah probably did not cut off Samson's hair; it fell out".

However, the serious scientific insight into the disease came from two fundamental discoveries. One was the isolation of a lethal venom (α -bungarotoxin) from a black and white-banded snake called the Formosan banded krait. That toxin produces

the same effect as a neuro-

transmitter in the body.

It has been well known that

in MG the thymus gland is

large and active. It's removal

can improve the condition

significantly.

But the latest research

Reprise for Victorian church

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Conservationists have secured a last-minute reprieve for a notable Victorian church in Bristol which was already in the hands of demolition contractors.

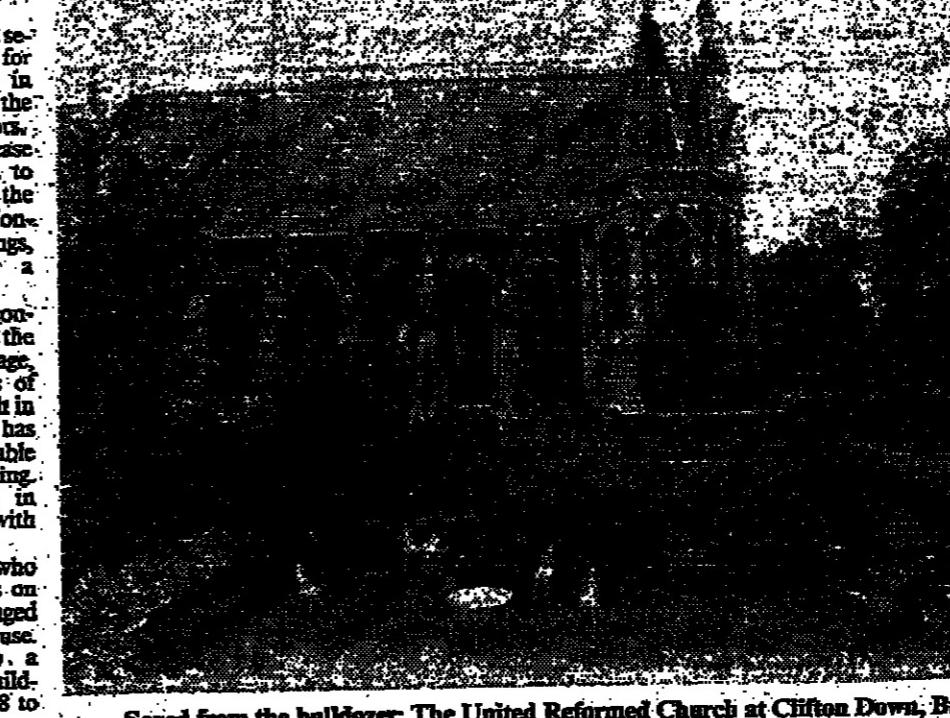
The issues raised by the case have again drawn attention to the anomalies surrounding the preservation of notable Nonconformist church buildings, and may point towards a solution.

Save, the organization concerned with the survival of the nation's architectural heritage, had talks with the trustees of the United Reformed Church in Clifton Down, Bristol, and has undertaken to find a suitable alternative use for the building. The church trustees have, in turn, agreed not to proceed with demolition.

Mr Marcus Binney, who negotiated with the trustees on Save's behalf, said he envisaged an open-plan office type of use. The church would keep a chapel on the site. The buildings were completed in 1868 to a design by Charles Hansom.

Although it is a listed building, the trustees were allowed, under the so-called ecclesiastical exemption, to order demolition without the city planning office being able to intervene. Conservationists have been campaigning for the ending of ecclesiastical exemption from normal listed building controls, particularly in the case of non-Anglican churches.

In the Church of England state aid is available through the Redundant Churches Fund to maintain unwanted churches of historic and architectural interest, and the church also has a system of controls, parallel to the controls over secular buildings. The Free Churches and the Roman Catholic Church receive no such aid, and have no similar controls.



Saved from the bulldozer: The United Reformed Church at Clifton Down, Bristol.

Save says it would support the removal of that anomaly.

Without commenting on the Bristol case, the Rev Bernard Thorogood, general secretary of the United Reformed Church, said he would initiate an approach to the Government through the Churches' Main Committee, the body through which all the main denominations discuss legal problems with government departments.

He envisaged a system to preserve redundant Free Church buildings which would be funded partly by Government, partly by the local community, and partly by the church concerned.

On all sides the problem is often in the future. Most Nonconformist or Roman Catholic buildings likely to become redundant and therefore candidates for demolition are Victorian, and in urban areas that are in need of architectural, if not spiritual uplift.

The church is often the one building of character in that locality. They are also approaching the end of their useful life as structures, however, and changes in population have usually reduced the size of congregation to the point where it is scarcely viable.

At the same time, fashion in town planning has changed from preferring wholesale redevelopment of such areas,

towards rehabilitation of the area with the buildings intact.

Several experiences in recent years have brought home to the non-Anglican denominations that considerable local unpopularity can be generated if they try to solve the problem of surplus buildings by demolition.

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towards rehabilitation of the area with the buildings intact.

The Department of the Environment is expected to publish a consultative document on the preservation of redundant ecclesiastical buildings later this year.

OBITUARY MR WILLIAM TAMBLIN Versatile aircraft designer

Mr W. A. Tamblin OBE, an aircraft designer who made significant contributions during the volatile wartime and post-war eras, died on August 15. He was 80.

Tamblin trained as a naval architect at Rosyth in Fife, before entering the aircraft industry. He worked in several companies, including Blackburn Aircraft and Handley Page, before joining De Havilland in 1936. His experience of metal construction was of considerable help to De Havilland in designing their first all-metal airliner the DH95 Flamingo under Mr R. E. Bishop.

During the Second World War Tamblin was put in charge of the DH98 Mosquito wing design, and was later responsible for the design of a large number of Mosquito developments. This included the modification of this versatile aircraft, in particular to produce a type carrying a glider and another carrying a 4,000lb bomb. Later he developed a naval version with a folding wooden wing and arrestor hook.

After the war he was responsible for the structural design of the DH106 Comet wing and in 1951 he took over the design of the DH114 Heron light transport aircraft.

Later in 1951 he was appointed to the airspeed division of De Havilland at Christchurch as chief designer. In the following years he was responsible for work on a large number of DH military types and projects, including development of the Venom fighter and the DH110 aircraft which he modified extensively for naval application, and which became known as the Sea Vixen.

At the end of the 1950s he returned to Hatfield to take up work on the 125 business jet and on several design projects, including early studies for a jet feederliner.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

DR F. H. KROCH

Dr Falk Heinz Kroch, CBE, who died in London on August 22, was the founder of Lankro Chemicals Ltd and its chairman from 1937 to 1971.

He was born in Berlin in 1904 and, after education at Freiburg and Berlin universities, went into the chemicals industry. In 1937, he left Germany as a refugee from Nazism and came to Britain. In the same year he established Lankro Chemicals at Eccles, the suburb of Manchester, with a handful of employees.

Lankro grew until in 1968, when it became a public company, it had more than 800 employees. In 1977, when it was bought by Diamond Shamrock, an American company, it had 1,250.

Much of its activity was devoted to producing chemicals for the leather trade, and in 1966-67 Kroch was president of the Society of Leather Technologists. He also gave help to the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. He was appointed CBE in 1973.

MR L. C. WILCHER

A correspondent writes:

Lewis Wilcher, whose death you briefly noted on July 16, succeeded John Totill as Principal of the Gordon Memorial College, Khartum in 1947, and guided the institution through its growth to become first the University College of Khartum and later the University of Khartum when Sudan attained independence.

He had a difficult task, for the Arabic-speaking northern Sudanese who made up the vast majority of the students were distinctly pro-Arab in their political sympathies, and many of them looked to Egypt rather than to Great Britain for intellectual guidance and inspiration. This Australian Rhodes Scholar made it plain that the college was quite distinct from the British authorities who were running the country; when there were student demonstrations, these were invariably directed against the Government and never against the University Senate or staff.

Apart from cricket and polo, Lewis' great love was building, and he was responsible for the erection of a handsome set of Moorish-Gothic teaching blocks and hostels on the university's site beside the Blue Nile. Subsequently, and using the same team of architects, he saw to the erection of an equally handsome set of buildings in Oxford, where he served as Warden of Queen Elizabeth House from 1956 to 1968. And, like his wife Vera, he attached great importance to the welfare of his staff in both institutions.

Mr. K. E. M. Carlisle

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and
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Anthony Hilton**
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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 724.0 down 16.4
FT Gilts: 79.67 down 0.15
FT All Shares: 459.07 down 6.60
Bargain: 21,038
Datatrack USM Leaders: Index 99.95 down 2.31
New York Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1194.21 down 8.94
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,169.08 down 34.67
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 993.14 down 7.09
Amsterdam: 151.5 down 1.7
Sydney: ASX Index 694.4 up 3.7
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 937.20 down 2.90
Brussels: General Index 134.16 up 1.9
Paris: CAC Index 137.3 up 1.3
Zurich: SKA General 268.0 down 1.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5280 unchanged
Index 85.7 down 0.1
DM 4.0250 down 0.0025
Fr 12.1150 up 0.0150
Yen 372 up 0.50
Dollar
Index 127.2 down 0.3
DM 2.6332
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5265
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 20.56729
SDR 20.691968

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9%
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9%
3 month interbank 9%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9%
3 month DM 5%
3 month Fr 14%
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9%
Treasury long bond 103%
103.4%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to 2 August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.9883 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$426.75 pm \$426.40
close \$425.25-42 up \$0.75
New York latest: \$426.40
Krugerrand (per coin):
\$438-439.50 (\$286.25-287.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$100-101 (\$65.25-66)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interims: Blagden Industries, Charterhouse Petroleum, Derek Crouch, International Thomson Organisation, London Brick, Novo Industri, Pearn Assurance, Queens Most Houses, Rotork, Slough Estates, Tilley International.

Economic statistics: Balance of payments, current account and overseas trade figures (July). Construction: new orders (June).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Arlington Motor Holdings, Chartered Accountants' Hall, Moorgate Place, EC2 (noon); Philip Harris (Holdings), Penrice Hall Hotel, Walney, Sutton Coldfield, W Midlands (noon)

NOTEBOOK

De Beers disappointed the market yesterday by announcing unchanged interim net profits of Rand 257m (£136m). Sales on the diamond account rose by almost a half to R159m, but earnings from associated companies were lower and the tax charge was higher. The dividend was held at 12.5 cents and the share fell from \$10% to \$9%.

Interim results from Hongkong & Shanghai Bank and Standard Chartered were both affected by the Hongkong property crash. Nevertheless, the former's pre-tax profits went up by 8.6 per cent to HK\$264m (£285m), while the latter's were £15m higher at £116m. Standard Chartered's loss provisions, nearly doubled to £60m.

Page 14

London Brick is expected to decide today whether to make a new takeover bid for Istock Johnson, the Leicester brick maker. The company was given clearance by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to renew its bid last week, but it cast doubts in the City that it would go ahead by describing Istock as looking "expensive".

We have nothing to fear, says Lonrho director

Parkinson orders inquiry into share ownership at House of Fraser

By Philip Robinson

The Government last night launched an investigation into whether House of Fraser shareholders have been making secret agreements between themselves on how to vote with their holdings.

This is the first time a government inspector has been appointed to check such deals, and the move comes amid the complex, long-running battle between the Fraser board and Lonrho, its largest shareholder, about floating of Harrods.

The investigation will be conducted by Mr John Griffiths, a former attorney-general for Hongkong. He was appointed by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, after Mr Parkinson received confidential information from the House of Fraser. Mr Griffiths has the power to seize documents and compel witnesses to give information.

Secret shareholder-agreements - "concert parties" - are outlawed in the 1981 Com-

panies Act. A concert party is the name given to two or more individuals (or companies) who buy shares separately in one company, having already agreed to use them as one holding at a later date. On indictment, the practice carries an unlimited fine and/or two years imprisonment.

The request for an investigation comes after almost 7.8 million Fraser shares changed hands in mid-June, between the two meetings on which the

practice carries an unlimited fine and/or two years imprisonment.

At the time, Professor Smith mentioned the share changes, pointing out the accumulation in a few foreign holdings of a large number of shares. He said:

"I do not regard the issue as dead".

The first vote on demerger, on May 6, was won by the Fraser board with a 1.8 million majority. Lonrho insisted that a second vote should take place, it was staged on June 30 and the Fraser board lost by 5 million votes.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director who also acts as one of its two representatives on the House of Fraser board, said last night: "We have nothing to fear from this investigation. It is a pity it has happened because it is another confusion for the long-suffering shareholder."

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Kuwaitis cut Lonrho holding

of the investment vehicles of Sheikh Nasser al Sabek of Kuwait, yesterday sold 2 million shares in Lonrho. It is believed that the new block went to one buyer of a price close to yesterday's 100p close.

Lonrho used to be Lonrho's largest shareholder, with two representatives on the board. But after a rift in the late 1970s the

two Gulf representatives departed. Since then the company has been critical of Lonrho's financial performance.

In 1980 it sold 5.8 million Lonrho shares to which it had rights under a Lonrho new share issue.

That sale reduced its percentage below the 17 per cent it had held for some years. Yesterday's sale still leaves

Gulf Fisheries with 37.5 million shares.

Mr Thomas Ferguson, Gulf's London representative, confirmed the sale. He said: "We thought we would take advantage of Lonrho's buoyant price. It is also part of a general strategy."

"There are more attractive investment opportunities in the US at the moment."

The appointment of an inspector is the latest twist in the five-year battle between Fraser and Lonrho. After Lonrho's £200m takeover bid for Fraser in 1981 - which was vetoed by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission - the company gave the Trade Secretary a list of undertakings, in effect promising not to increase its influence over Fraser by buying any further shares.

Another difference between the two sets of directors centres around a possible new conference for September 14 to thrash out the future of state and occupational pensions.

If it is not to degenerate into another bloodbath between the on the one hand, the National Association of Pension Funds and the Confederation of British Industry, whose interests are largely to limit any costs to the employer, and on the other hand, the unions, where control of the vast resources of pension funds is the prime objective, then the organizers must tread carefully.

The conference will take the form of a seminar with invited speakers, followed by questions from the floor and will be open to the press.

But who among this gaggle of professionals dedicated to protecting their own interests, is to speak for the pension fund members? Few groups of professionals are more vocal, more incomprehensible or more at odds with each other than those who earn their living from the pensions industry.

How will the ordinary member of a pension scheme, the job-changer, the early retires, the pensioners in retirement and those made compulsorily redundant, be heard above the baying of this articulate pack of hounds, all anxious to make sure that they are in at the kill?

There is no national organization representing job-changers or those made redundant. While the insurance companies which market self-employed pension schemes will no doubt make a good job of protecting the interests of this sector, there is little mileage for a pension consultant

City Editor's Comment

A chance to solve age old problems

An issue as important as pensions, which has far-reaching implications for the economy, for society and for the individual, should not be allowed to fall victim to vested interests.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, has called a pensions conference for September 14 to thrash out the future of state and occupational pensions.

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Needless to say the figures are only a rough guide to what will appear in the prospectus, assuming that the oil assets are eventually floated.

But, coupled with the corporation's own estimate that the oil assets will generate some £300m in net income over the next three years, forecasts that the package could be worth £300m to £400m in a flotation are beginning to look conservative - especially now that confidence has returned to the oil sector.

Maxwell to claim 45% acceptances

By Our Financial Staff

British Printing & Communication Corporation was right night to believe it had won control of 45 per cent of John Waddington's shares at the first closing date of its £18m bid for the Monopoly games company.

BPCC's offer closed yesterday afternoon leaving the company's advisers urgently chasing institutional shareholders to win the crucial additional six per cent of Waddington shares needed to clinch the fiercely contested takeover attempt.

Mr Robert Maxwell, BPCC chairman, said that he would make an announcement to the Stock Exchange at 9.30 this morning to confirm the level of acceptances for his takeover of 13 BPCC shares for every five Waddington shares or 249.60p a share.

He said that although he could not reveal details of the acceptances before today he was "very confident" about winning control of Waddington.

Last night BPCC's shares were up 4p at 110p, while Waddington shares were also up by 4p at 242p.

BPCC now looks certain to extend its paper terms for Waddington shares for another two weeks.

In spite of confident noises from the BPCC camp, Waddington's advisers were still adamant that they would be able to fight off the takeover attempt.

Two key shareholders in Waddington, Brimann Assurance and the M & G Unit Trust with 20 per cent of Waddington's were approached by Mr Maxwell's advisers, but decided to remain loyal to the Waddington management.

In a statement to shareholders last week, Waddington said that shareholders representing 46.2 per cent of the company's share capital had indicated that they did not intend to accept the BPCC offer.

Mr Maxwell contested this claim and said that he was aware only that the Brimann and M & G intended to reject his takeover offer.

The group ran into difficulties after acquiring the St George's laundry company

Pritchard in agreed Spring Grove bid

By Jeremy Warner

Pritchard Services Group

Half-year to 3.7.83

Pre-tax profit £4.8m (24m)

Stated profit 3.32p (2.8p)

Turnover £140.2m (£129.9m)

Net interim dividend 1p (1.9p)

Share price 188p down 8p

Yield 3.1%

Pritchard Services yesterday revealed itself as one of the suitors for Spring Grove, the troubled Henley-based wokwear and laundry group, with an agreed share bid worth £16m.

At the same time it launched a cash call on shareholders for £24.4m by offering rights to one new share at 120p for every four shares held.

Spring Grove has been in talks with several companies for some months and director Mr Kenneth Thompson, who is also a director of Charterhouse Group, the company's dominant shareholder, conceded that it would have been "difficult for Spring Grove to have continued as an independent company."

Pritchard is offering seven of its shares for every 20 Spring Grove shares to put a value of 48.5p on each.

A copy of this document (certified by the acting Chairman and two members of the Executive Board) has been delivered to the Registrar of Companies for registration.

BASF Rights Issue

With the consent of the Supervisory Board, the Executive Board of our company has decided to make use of the authority (authorised capital) permitted by the Articles of Association to increase the share capital by DM 115,000,000 to DM 2,171,482,200 by the issue of new bearer shares with full entitlement to dividends in respect of the year ending 31st December 1983. A bank consortium led by the Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft, Frankfurt am Main, has taken up the new shares with the obligation to offer them to our shareholders for subscription in the ratio of one new share for every 18 shares held at a price of DM 135 for every DM 50 share.

West Germany
Deutsche Bank Aktiengesellschaft
Deutsche Bank Berlin Aktiengesellschaft
Bankhaus H. Aufhäuser
Baden-Württembergische Bank
Aktiengesellschaft
Badische Kommunale Landesbank
Girozentrale -
Bank für Handel und Industrie
Aktiengesellschaft
Bayerische Hypotheken- und Wechsel-Bank
Aktiengesellschaft
Bayerische Landesbank Girozentrale
Bayerische Versicherungs-Aktiengesellschaft
Berliner Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft
Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank
Bankhaus Gräfin von Bethmann
Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft
Deutsche Ländler Aktiengesellschaft
DG Bank Deutsche Genossenschaftsbank
Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft
Hamburgische Landesbank - Girozentrale -
Georg Hauck & Sohn Bankers KGaA
Hessische Landesbank - Girozentrale -
Landesbank Rheinland-Pfalz - Girozentrale -

Landesbank Schleswig-Holstein
- Girozentrale -
Merck, Finck & Co.
Metallbank GmbH
B. Metzler seel. Sohn & Co.
Norddeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale
Sal Oppenheim Jr. & Cie.
Schroder, Münchmeyer, Hengst & Co.
Tübke & Burkhardt
Vereins- und Westbank Aktiengesellschaft
Bayerische Hypotheken- und Wechsel-Bank
Aktiengesellschaft
Bayerische Landesbank Girozentrale
Bayerische Versicherungs-Aktiengesellschaft
Berliner Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft
Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank
Bankhaus Gräfin von Bethmann
Commerzbank AG Europartner
Commerz-Credit-Bank AG
Deutsche Bank Saar Aktiengesellschaft

France:
Banque Paribas, Paris
Banque Nationale de Paris, Paris
Credit du Nord, Paris
Credi Lyonnais, Paris
Lazard Frères et Cie., Paris
L'Européenne de Banque, Paris
Société Générale, Paris

Great Britain:
Kleinwort, Benson Limited, London
S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., London
Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V., Amsterdam

Austria

Taylor Woodrow hit by dividend tussle

By John Lawless

DE BEERS
Half-year to 30.6.83
Net profit £27.5m (£25.6m)
Stated earnings 66.7 cents (70.3 cents)
Net interim dividend 12.5 cents
Share price \$9 15/16 Yield 3.3%
Dividend payable 3.11.83

The most exciting thing about yesterday's half-time results from Taylor Woodrow was the little pantomime tussle that developed over the share price.

The petulant pixies annoyed that profits at £11.62m were ahead of expectations, but that the dividend was held at 5.5p – immediately wiped 5p off the share price.

The good fairies – pointing out that very large companies heading for their 23rd consecutive year of increased profits may be boring, but are also few and far between – repaid the insult with 5p interest.

"I hope they won't be disappointed," Mr Richard Puttick, Taylor Woodrow chairman and chief executive, said midway through.

But they were and Taylor Woodrow finished the day 5p off again at 54.5p.

Taylor Woodrow's strength – sufficient to achieve a 20 per cent increase in interim profits, on a turnover 10 per cent up at £317m – is its spread of activities and markets.

Stoddard cuts loss in second half

By Our Financial Staff

STODDARD HOLDINGS P.L.C.
Year to 31.3.1983
Pretax loss £1.14m (£2.25m loss)
Turnover £23.6m (£3.6m)
Dividend payable none (same)
Loss per share 10.7p (17.7p)

down this year," said Mr Hay. Borrowings have fallen to £4.3m and properties which are being sold are expected to raise nearly £1m.

Installation of a computer lead to 70 administrative staff becoming redundant and a further 110 workers elsewhere in the company were laid off. Extra debt of £1.8m was incurred by closures and reorganisation.

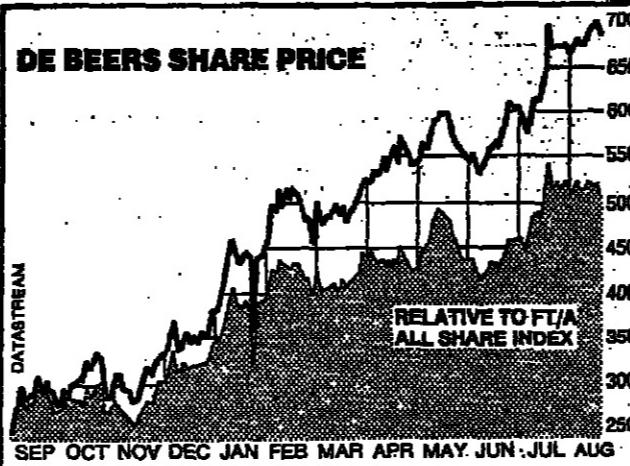
The company maintained two sales forces – the result of the merger with the Gutherie Corporation three years ago – but these have now been amalgamated.

Mr Hay, who is being paid £39,500 a year for his part-time five year contract, thought a dividend might be in prospect by the end of next year.

"They will be substantially

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

De Beers problems far from over



diminished since the end of last year when it was valued at around £1,800m.

Much will depend on how the sights next week and next month proceed. These set the tone of the market by laying in supplies for Christmas. So if they are disappointing, De Beers will not enjoy the second

On present showing the company could come out a little ahead of last year's R447 net profit, but the failure of interest rates to fall further and the probability of high tax charges will block a sizeable increase in profits.

Another factor militating against De Beers is the poor performance of the associates – Minorco, Anglo American Industrial, and Anglo itself. The share of retained profits from associates fell steeply from R152m to R93m.

Shareholders should consider excluding associates rose by 12.7 cents to 40.7 cents, and earnings including the associates fell slightly from 70.3 cents to 66.7 cents.

The likelihood, therefore, is that the stockpile has not

provisions against British corporate customers in the Midlands, this explains why the half-year results are rather disappointing, with pretax profits up from £104m to £116m, including £5m of currency gains.

Provisions of £60m were nearly double the level in the first half of 1982.

However this trend is likely to prove misleading and Standard Chartered expects the total bad debt provision for this year to be about £90m, implying a big drop in the second half.

The main profit centre, South Africa, has done well – although on the exceptional second half of 1982 – as has the Californian subsidiary and British treasury and consumer credit operations. The operations in the East have not fared so well.

This is also evident from Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's results. Net attributable profits have risen by 3.6 per cent to HK\$964m (£53m), which was slightly better than many expected. But the bank had benefited from the very strong performance in Hongkong for terms of its US subsidiary Marine Midland, and it may well have been drawing on its secret reserves in order to flatter the profit trend.

The property crash in Hongkong has taken its toll on both Standard Chartered and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in the first half of 1983.

Standard Chartered, although its direct exposure to Hongkong property is small, has had to make some hefty provisions against manufacturing customers who turn out to have been speculating in the property market.

Together with some big oil companies involved in the exploration business inevitably have exploration costs. These by the nature of the

industry are substantial and only recoverable if the expertise of the company's geologists is proved.

London and Scottish Marine Oil (Lasmco) is such a company. It derives its income from the oil it sells from the wells that it, and its consortium partners, drill and bring into production. Refining and marketing operations cannot be used to spread the financial load.

So the Lasmco announcement yesterday that its interim figures include writing-off £24.3m in the first six months of its financial year – up by £19.9m over the same period a year before – should be viewed in that light.

Half-year profits of £17.8m after tax on sales of £122m compare with figures for the same period a year ago of £22m profits on sales of £116m.

The dividend remains static at 4.5p, although there are a third more shares after the rights-issue in March.

Against those exploration costs should be not exceptional revenues of £10.6m from the company's re-determination of its stake in the North Sea's Nornen field.

However, as an exploration company Lasmco would seem to be on the right track. It has substantial holdings in several Indonesian oil fields which come to fruition shortly and start contributing profits half way through next year.

Lasmco's nose for oil would seem to be in sound shape. In the first half of this year the company has participated in 50 wells with only six of them dry.

Present oil prices mean that probably just a handful of these wells would ever be worth bringing into production. Lasmco is therefore finely geared to the oil price.

US crime pays for Hawley

By Our Financial Staff

ELECTRO-PROTECTIVE
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £3.4m (£1.9m)
Stated earnings 10.3 cents (8.7 cents)
Net interim dividend 6.6 cents (1.5 cents)
Share price 173p down 10p

Crime in the United States shows no sign of abating and Electro-Protective, the security subsidiary of Mr Michael Ashcroft's Hawley Group, is reaping big rewards.

The large growth in profits in the first half reflects Electro-Protective's heavy acquisition programme since Hawley bought its controlling stake two years ago. In similar terms, profits jumped from £1.4m to £2.7m.

Analysts had hoped for a bigger contribution from the new acquisitions in the first half, and the shares were trimmed back 10p to 173p. But the rights-issue in March

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More... Electro-Protective acquisitions are likely in the second half, but the company's borrowings are insignificant and it is unlikely to ask shareholders for more cash, having launched a £10m rights issue in April.

The latest acquisitions were Alarm Supply Company in February and Sonitron in April.

Since the rights issue, Hawley has had a 50.02 per cent stake in New Canadian shell company, Midepsa.

Electro-Protective specializes in "central station" alarm systems which allow a single operator to monitor several buildings using alarms linked by telephone lines; it also manufactures security equipment, which may soon be sold in Britain where margins are higher.

Electro-Protective's services have 27,000 subscribers, up from 20,000 six months ago, and 19 stations.

Hawley, Mr Ashcroft's master company, reports its results today.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

INGERSOLL-RAND
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £5.8m (£5.3m)

PHENIX PROPERTIES & FINANCE
Half-year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £12.00m (£22,000)
Stated earnings 1.3p (0.3p)
Net interim dividend none
Share price 43p up 1p

FIFE INDUSTRIES
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £403,000 (£37,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (0.1p)
Turnover £2.7m (£2.6m)
Net interim dividend 2.25p (nil)
Share price 92p up 23p. Yield 6.3%

COPICO
Half-year to 30.6.83
Trading profit £363,000 (£37,000)
Stated earnings 5.81p (1.21p)
Turnover £4.2m (£3.5m)
Net interim dividend 2.25p (nil)
Share price 92p up 23p. Yield 3.9%

FIRST SCOTTISH AMERICAN TRUST
Half-year to 31.7.83
Net profit £797,000 (£282,000)
Stated earnings 2.47p (2.75p)
Turnover £2.7m (£2.1m)
Net interim dividend 1.4p (1.3p)
Share price 197p down 1p. Yield 3.7%

GEORGE INGHAM
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £100,000 (£52,000)
Stated earnings 4.85p (2.5p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net interim dividend 0.35p (0.25p)

SIMPSON WHITFORD
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £3,000 (loss £20,000)
Stated earnings 0.001p (loss 7.47p)
Turnover £1.1m (£1.1m)
Net dividend None (same)
Share price 16p up 1p

APAC PROPERTIES
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £600,000 (£626,000)
Stated earnings 3.83p (2.82p)
Turnover £21.1m (£21.1m)
Net dividend 2p (same)
Share price 96p down 5p yield 3

JON HOLDINGS
Year to 31.7.83
Pretax income £362,000 (£296,000)
Stated earnings 3.03p (2.92p)
Net dividend 2p (2.26p)
Share price 94p unchanged Yield 4.4%

INTERSTATE INDUSTRIAL FINANCIAL
Year to 31.12.82
Trading profit £1,000,000 (£100,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (0.1p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net dividend 2p (same)
Share price 96p down 5p yield 3

THE INVESTMENT BANK
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £1,000,000 (£100,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (0.1p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net dividend 2p (same)
Share price 16p up 1p

ABP BANK
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £1,000,000 (£100,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (0.1p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net dividend 2p (same)
Share price 16p up 1p

INTERSTATE INDUSTRIAL SERVICES LTD
Year to 31.12.82
Trading profit £1,000,000 (£100,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (0.1p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net dividend 2p (same)
Share price 16p up 1p

THE INVESTMENT BANK
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £1,000,000 (£100,000)
Stated earnings 1.2p (0.1p)
Turnover £2.1m (£2.1m)
Net dividend 2p (same)
Share price 16p up 1p

WHEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSIONERS
AVERAGE STOCK INDEX OF REPRESENTATIVE
COMMODITIES
1982 1983
1. Corn 22.07p 16.40p
2. Wheat 11.84p 10.40p
3. Barley 10.40p 9.40p
4. Oats 10.40p 9.40p
5. Potash 10.40p 9.40p
6. Sulphur 10.40p 9.40p
7. Lime 10.40p 9.40p
8. Coal 10.40p 9.40p
9. Steel 10.40p 9.40p
10. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
11. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
12. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
13. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
14. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
15. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
16. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
17. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
18. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
19. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
20. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
21. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
22. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
23. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
24. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
25. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
26. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
27. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
28. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
29. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
30. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
31. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
32. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
33. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
34. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
35. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
36. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
37. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
38. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
39. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
40. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
41. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
42. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
43. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
44. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
45. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
46. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
47. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
48. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
49. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
50. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
51. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
52. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
53. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
54. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
55. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
56. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
57. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
58. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
59. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
60. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
61. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
62. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
63. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
64. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
65. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
66. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
67. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
68. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
69. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
70. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
71. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
72. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
73. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
74. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
75. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
76. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
77. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
78. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
79. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
80. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
81. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
82. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
83. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
84. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
85. Zinc 10.40p 9.40p
86. Tin 10.40p 9.40p
87. Copper 10.40p 9.40p
88. Lead 10.40p 9.40p
89. Zinc

Scribble
ays for
Lawyers

Privatization - 2: Jeremy Warner on the dilemma facing hospitals

Companies who aim to clean up in the health service

When the share price of Brengreen, a small city-based office and street cleaning group, breached the £1m barrier for the first time, more than a few eyebrows were raised to surprise at the Stock Exchange nearby.

Brengreen has become one of the most highly rated shares in the market, selling at a staggering 30 times likely 1983 earnings - the sort of valuation normally attached only to companies at the forefront of technology. Mrs Mop had joined the micro-chip.

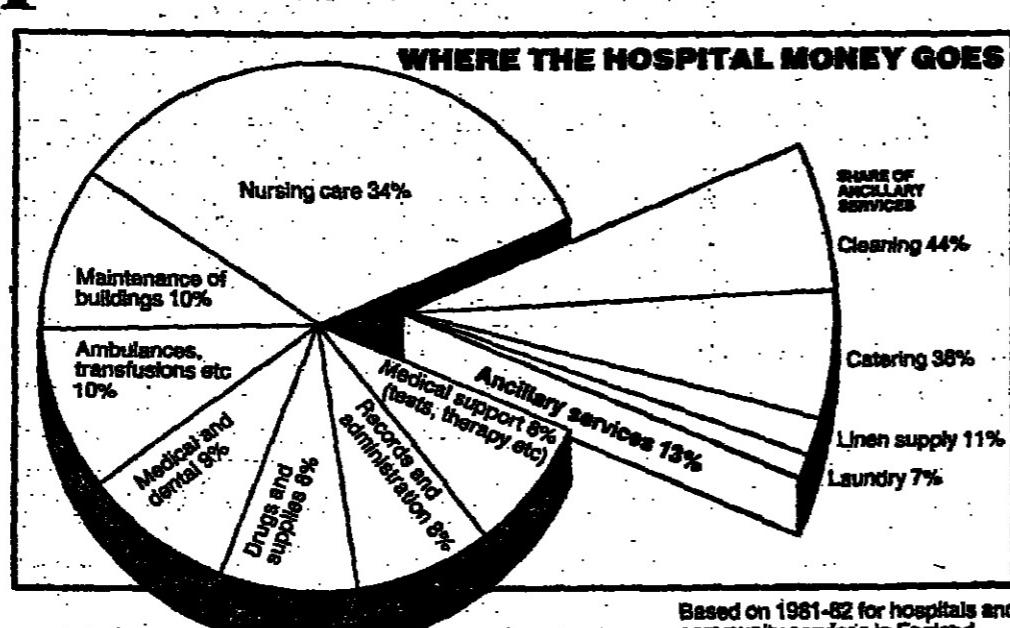
The secret ingredient is privatization. The National Health Service will this year spend nearly £3bn of its £15.5bn budget on ancillary services such as catering, laundry, cleaning, porters and maintenance.

If only a fifth of that sum were eventually to be contracted out to the private sector, it would roughly double the turnover of what is still a fairly small industry.

Add to this the cleaning work that local authorities are expected to put out to the private sector for schools, colleges, streets and refuse collection, and it is not difficult to see why the services industry is anticipating a bonanza over the next five years.

The popularity of the sector on the stock market was graphically illustrated yesterday when, after a shoal of rumours about the future of the Spring Grove group, best known for industrial towel supply, Pritchard Services launched an agreed share for share takeover bid worth £16.8m.

Spring Grove was the weak man of the industrial service bid after an ill-conceived



Based on 1981-82 for hospitals and community services in England

POSSIBLE CONTENDERS FOR CONTRACTS

	Market valuation
Advance Services	£24m
Brengreen	£242m
Hawley Group	£22m
Pritchard*	£11m
Sketchley	£75m
Spring Grove	£15m
Sunlight Services	£20m
Total	£590m

*Before £23m Pritchard rights issue and agreed takeover of Spring Grove.

their contracts out to tender. Within Europe, this is a position unique to Britain. In every other EEC country, public authorities are obliged by law to put contracts out to tender.

If a significant number of contracts from each regional health authority do not go out to tender this autumn, the Government might be tempted to follow the legislative path. In April last year, the chairman of all the 14 regional health authorities were either changed or reappointed but the type of Thatcher placement the cynical mind might expect to find in these positions as a consequence, simply did not appear.

Nor will the political colour of a particular area - a crucial determinant in the decision to contract out local authority or school and college cleaning work - have much of an effect on the reluctance or otherwise of health districts to dip into the privatization issue. Politicians and the public sector doing an inadequate job are high.

The National Union of Public Employees has already collected evidence to show how services have deteriorated after being contracted out. So rather than just urging authorities to test the cost effectiveness of in-house work through the tender system, a more obvious financial squeeze is now being applied to the Health Service which will increasingly force authorities into contracting out as a method of savings.

However, for the privatization lobby, even this does not go far enough. The strong recommendation that the circular will contain to put contracts out to tender may still be quietly ignored by many districts either because they genuinely feel that contracting out does not give them the same quality control and discipline that in-house services do, or because they feel it is not worth the aggravation.

Hospital administrators regard their job as running a hospital, not waging what some see as a political battle with the unions.

Without legislation, the circular cannot make it compulsory for health authorities to put

Recommendation to put work out to tender may be quietly ignored

acquisition went wrong. But in a popular sector, where other mergers have been stymied by the Monopolies Commission, Pritchard was able to back up its takeover with a rights issue to its own shareholders calling for £23.4m in new capital for expansion of the combined group and justified its confidence with results for the half-year to July 3 showing a 20 per cent rise in pretax profit from £4m to £4.8m.

The share prices of anything to do with cleaning or laundry have, as a consequence, been riding the crest of a wave over the past 12 months. The sector as a whole has outperformed the rest of the market by more than 15 per cent. Within it, Brengreen, which has already managed to win around a half of the local authority refuse collection and street cleaning contracts, has been outstanding, outperforming the market by 67 per cent.

This has been followed by Initial, whose share price has done 31 per cent better than the market. Pritchard Services Group, whose image has been considerably damaged over the last month by the adverse publicity surrounding its London Borough of Wandsworth street cleaning and gardening contract, has still managed to stay 16 per cent ahead of the market.

The Department of Health and Social Security plans to issue a circular next month telling health authorities how to obtain tenders from the private sector and to compare them with in-house renders.

The circular was to have gone out before the Parliamentary recess but was delayed. It will be the culmination of a process which began last February when Mr Norman Fowler, the then Social Services Secretary, said

any more than 35 hospitals out of 1,850 in England and Wales alone will go out to competitive tender this autumn. These will be regarded as test cases on which the private sector's claims will stand or fall.

Less than a half of the health service contracts put out to tender will result in work for the private sector if the experience of tendering for local authority street cleaning or refuse collection work is anything to go by.

The competitive tender system is used by many local authorities as a big stick to beat down in-house costs and there is every reason to suppose the health service will use it in the same way.

Private sector companies achieve their lower costs by employing fewer people and by employing this generally ununionized labour more efficiently by changing the old working practices. According to Brengreen's Mr David Evans, considerable savings are also achieved by using modern equipment.

He says: "You can clean 10,000 sq ft an hour with a scrubber-dryer. At best you get 1,000 ft an hour from a mop and bucket. The health service will never spend money on scrubber-dryers because when it comes to equipment purchases, its priorities lie elsewhere."

The private sector achieves, according to the unions, lower costs by cutting corners. There is, almost by definition, a wealth of anecdotal evidence to back up either view point but the case has grabbed the headlines of late adds some credibility to the union standpoint. The street cleaning and gardening contracts in Wandsworth have been nothing but trouble for Pritchard.

It privately admits to wishing that it had never tendered for them. The damage in public relations has been enormous. Since the contracts were awarded in February last year, several financial penalties have been awarded against Pritchard by public inspectors and the whole messy business has culminated in a long and acrimonious labour dispute.

Pritchard, which through its Crothall offshoot carries out work for about 36 public hospitals in Britain, four out of five where ancillary services are already contracted out, is in a prime position for winning further health service work and can realistically expect to get up to a half of all that is on offer.

It has considerable international experience in hospital management enabling it to offer a complete package of laundry, catering and domestic services.

Other companies that hope to gain are Initial, Hawley Group through its Mediclean offshoot, Sketchley, Spring Grove, John-

The Wandsworth contracts have been nothing but trouble

laundry services to five public hospitals to Initial, the towels and workwear group. A contract to provide cleaning services for the Beckenham maternity hospital was awarded to a Danish-owned company called ISS Hospital Services but the existing in-house workforce involved only 17 people here.

It would be rash for the private sector to believe that

APPOINTMENTS

Prestige names new finance director

Prestige Group: Mr Brian Wainwright has been made finance director; respectively for A. F. Bulgin and Sheafers Peas UK Division of Textron Inc: Mr Michael Sheafers, chairman of Overseas Trade Group for Ireland: Mr Clinton Silver will be chairman for three years until July 1986. He replaces Mr J. S. Harrison, chairman since January 1979.

Owens Holdings: Mr David Grant has been appointed secretary to the group and to VAT Watkins. Mr Ron Goodyer becomes chairman of H. Fairweather (City), where he has been managing director. Mr Charles Lance, a director, becomes managing director. Mr Gordon Parker becomes executive director of Swindley Bar Plant, with Mrs Brenda Barker as company secretary. Mr Eric Wallis is appointed development manager and secretary of Belfast, the group's property and land development company.

A. F. Bulgin & Company: Mr Richard Bulgin has been elected to the board. Mr Christopher Sawyer has been appointed chief executive of Broxley Holdings and Mr Ronald McKellar has been made financial director. Mr Ronald Bulgin and Mr Robert Bulgin, chairman and managing director,

Mr John Devaney (above) has been appointed managing director of Perkins Engines.

Johnstone has become managing director.

J. L. Catering: Mr D. C. Johnson, special projects director of Lyons Bakery, will be managing director of J. L. Catering a week tomorrow.

Car Care Plan (Securities Division): Mr Alan Clarke has been appointed to the new position of commercial vehicle sales director.

Financial notebook

Dollar build-up may lead to yet another burst bubble

Financial bubbles have long been a feature of investment markets in Britain and elsewhere. Periodically, market participants persuade themselves that a particular asset or investment activity presents unlimited prospects for financial gain, only to be faced with a savage reaction when it becomes apparent that market values have reached unsustainable levels.

Most have in the last six months set up special medical services subsidiaries if they did not have them already.

But if the experience of Pritchard in Wandsworth is anything to go by, contracting out of National Health Service work could be a messy business in which the rewards in the early years are small.

Mr Andrew Melrose, an investment analyst with the stock broking firm Grieveson Grant, says: "The whole sector has become frothy. Share prices at these levels are anticipating substantial benefits from privatization. But I think it will be a much longer and more acrimonious process than people in the City generally appreciate."

About 50 per cent of the money spent by the health service on domestic catering and laundry services, goes on cleaning, 42 per cent of catering, and 8 per cent on laundry.

It will be a brave district administrator who becomes the first to award the cleaning or portering contract for an existing big city hospital to anything other than the in-house tender.

And it requires a great deal of faith in the Government's will to privatize to believe that the private sector will indeed be sitting on £500m of extra work from the health service in a few years.

Tomorrow: hard lessons of oil.

budget deficit the market consensus is that tight credit conditions will continue to support a strong dollar for as long as the Administration and Congress remain deadlocked over budgetary policy.

According to this view the positive interest rate factor will outweigh any further deterioration in the American trade position resulting from the dollar's appreciation.

There are, however, two objections to this assessment of the dollar's prospects. First is now becoming apparent, the outlook for American investment trusts in the 1970s, and the more recent boom-to-bust syndrome in international lending are examples of excessive market enthusiasm giving rise to investment bubbles that eventually burst.

The behaviour of currency markets over the past two years suggests that another bubble is building up in the form of an overvalued American dollar. Since the end of 1980 the dollar has appreciated by one third against the average of other leading currencies, by 50 per cent against the Deutsche Mark and by more than 60 per cent against sterling.

The main explanation for this dramatic rise in the dollar's external value is the level of dollar interest rates which, after adjusting for inflation, have offered considerably higher "real" rates of return than those available on non-dollar denominated assets.

Furthermore, since the prime cause of high American interest rates is the soaring of the country's international trade position is certain.

Careful estimates indicate that the dollar's appreciation over the past two and a half years will eventually result in a worsening of the annual trade balance to the extent of \$40bn to \$50bn (£26.4bn to 33.1bn) implying chronic current account deficits of this order and, indeed, more.

This means that, if the dollar's value is to be sustained, America will have to attract even larger net capital inflows to offset the widening shortfall on current account.

More likely is an abrupt reversal of the dollar's recent performance as the dominant concern of investors shifts from hopes of high interest rates to trade developments and the external financing "gap".

Previous experience suggests that the market adjustment, when it comes, will be precipitous rather than gradual, posing particular dangers for an Administration that has foreseen large-scale official intervention as an instrument of stabilization.

In particular, American inflation could be boosted by several percentage points if the dollar were permitted to find its own level in a ballyhooed foreign exchange market.

A dollar crisis, coming after a prolonged period of excessive dollar strength, would also raise fundamental questions about the management of exchange rates.

Dr Richard Dale

The author is an economist and barrister and co-author of *Managing Global Debt*, to be published by the Brookings Institution next month.

Standard Chartered BANK PLC

Interim Statement

The Standard Chartered Bank Group profit before taxation for the half-year to 30th June 1983 is £116.4 million

Half-year ended 30th June 1983	Half-year ended 31st December 1982	Half-year ended 30th June 1982
£m	£m	£m
Profit before provision for bad and doubtful debts	176.5	195.6
Provision for bad and doubtful debts	60.1	54.5
Profit before taxation	116.4	141.1

The pre-tax profit for the half-year to 30th June 1983 was 15% up on the comparable period of 1982 despite the need to make large provisions for bad and doubtful debts, particularly in the United Kingdom and Hong Kong Group profit experience this year has been mixed, with strong performances in South Africa, California and in the U.K. International and Treasury Divisions, a turnaround in profit in Chartered Trust and rather flat or lower results in the East. After financing costs, the MAIBL acquisition made a useful positive contribution.

An interim dividend of 9.5 pence per share (1982 - 9.2 pence) has been declared for payment on 7th October 1983 to shareholders registered on 16th September 1983. As indicated at the time of the Rights Issue in April 1983, the Directors expect, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, to recommend dividends in respect of the year ended 31st December 1983, amounting to at least 27 pence per share on the share capital as increased by the Rights Issue.

Group Results

(unaudited)

Six months ended 30th June 1983	Six months ended 31st December 1982	Six months ended 30th June 1982
£m	£m	£m
Trading profit of the Bank and its subsidiaries (Note 1)	116.2	139.9
Share of profits of associated companies	18.7	19.8
	134.9	119.2
Interest on subordinated loan capital	18.5	18.6
Profit before taxation	116.4	141.1
Taxation:		
The Bank and its subsidiaries (Note 2)	40.0	45.1
Associated Companies	8.0	8.0
Profit after taxation	68.4	88.0
Minority interests	13.9	19.9
Profit before extraordinary items	54.5	68.1
Profit attributable to members of the Bank	54.5	66.9
Dividend	14.8	23.1
Profit retained	39.7	43.8
Earnings per share (Note 3)	39.1p	52.6p
Dividend per share	9.5p	9.2p
	(Interim)	(Final)
	(Interim)	(

CRICKET: ESSEX STAY AHEAD IN THE TITLE CHASE, BOYCOTT SCORES 100 BEFORE LUNCH

Middlesex savaged by a sticky dog and fall behind in championship

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S: Somerset (72 pts) beat Middlesex (63) by 33 runs.

An "eventful" day, though it consisted of only two hours' 40 minutes' play, was with Somerset gaining 16 extra points which Middlesex so badly needed. Up to a point, all went well for Middlesex. After a delayed start and on a wet pitch they reduced Somerset in their second-innings, from their overnight 72 for 1 to 19 all out. But having set out to score 122 to win, which they were going to do, they lost 40 minutes to a heavy downpour and in the chase that followed, Somerset bowled them out.

So with three weeks of the season left, Essex had taken the county championship table for the first time since May 1980. Middlesex, who went to the top on July 7 and by June 21 had a lead of 48 points, are now 13 points behind Essex, though with a match in hand. Beset by injury and weakened by absence, Middlesex will be looking, during the next week, to their younger players to help keep them in the hunt.

Play began after an early lunch with Somerset leading by 79. The

Scorecard at Lord's

SOMERSET: First Innings 249 J E Emburey 5 Second Innings 119
BOWLING: First Innings 242 (W G Gedling 102, J E Emburey 80)
J W Doyle vs Emburey 22 R L Ollis vs Emburey 22 G L Davis vs Emburey 22 I V Richards & Emburey 22 N F Poplewell & Emburey 22
R S Boycott & Emburey 10 T E Gifford & Emburey 10 V J Richards & Emburey 10
J E Emburey & D G Gifford 10 J Garner & D G Gifford 10 J Garner & D G Gifford 10
S C Borthwell not out 0 Extras (63) 63, nobt. 0
Total 362
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-78, 3-83, 4-98, 5-102, 6-117, 7-119, 8-128, 9-138, 10-149, 11-159, 12-178, 13-188, 14-198, 15-208, 16-218, 17-228, 18-238, 19-248, 20-258, 21-268, Edmonds 165-10-195; Gifford 1-0-1.
Umpires: J W Holden and R Palmer.

Impress: J W Holden and R Palmer.

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FALL OF WICKETS: 1-49, 2-78, 3-83, 4-98,
5-102, 6-117, 7-119, 8-128,
9-138, 10-149, 11-159, 12-178,
13-188, 14-198, 15-208, 16-218,
17-228, 18-238, 19-248, 20-258, 21-268,
Edmonds 165-10-195; Gifford 1-0-1.

Impress: J W Holden and R Palmer.

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FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-18, 3-16, 4-33,
5-43, 6-53, 7-63, 8-73, 9-83, 10-93,
11-103, 12-113, 13-123, 14-133, 15-143,
16-153, 17-163, 18-173, 19-183, 20-193,
Edmonds 165-10-195; Gifford 1-0-1.

Impress: J W Holden and R Palmer.

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Kent bat a path to safety

By Peter Marson

FOLKESTONE: Kent (5pts) drew with Warwickshire (3).

Kent's batsmen, casting aside the spectre of defeat by an innings yesterday scaled an improbable summit and issued a challenge. In this Warwickshire were invited to make 143 runs to win in 21 overs.

Lloyd and Smith scored 31 in 37 minutes from 11 overs before shouldering arms and taking off. The opportunity to take maximum points had been lost, not so much here but in Willis' insistence in bowling Gifford and Old into the ground.

The morning's sunshine eventually gave way to Folkestone's notorious sea mist. Having done no rounds elsewhere, it arrived to encircle the Chelmsford ground around three o'clock, to a suitable theatrical touch, before Warwickshire's frustration was at its zenith at this point as Aslett and Knott added to an increasing pile of runs.

At the five start Kent, with nine second innings wickets in hand, had been in the unenviable position of requiring 149 runs as Warwickshire made ready for the final. In spite of the fact that at this time 791 runs had been made on this pitch, its quality was the subject of considerable doubt. By the end of the second day, when Gifford had taken six wickets for 85 as Kent were bowled out for 268, that doubt had been confirmed.

But fears that the pitch might deteriorate to the point where Gifford would be well nigh unplayable were never realized. Not that that minimises Kent's resource or determination in what was unquestionably a difficult test.

By the time Tavaré had become the second wicket to fall, at 114, he and Knott had inspired all men and Kent's remaining batsmen followed their example, near enough, at every step. Tavaré batted splendidly to make 62 and Benson kept the flag flying with a gallant 52.

Astert entered the arena at midday. It was 4.30 before he reined his steps. By that time he had made 78 and, in company with Knott, who made 80, had taken Kent clear in a stand of 149 for the sixth wicket.

KENT: First Innings 268 (3 W Johnson 70 not out, Gifford 6 for 85) Second Innings 149. Total (6 wkt.) 417. Fall of WICKETS: 1-62, 2-114, 3-128, 4-138, 5-159, 6-169, 7-178, 8-188, 9-198, 10-208, 11-218, 12-228, 13-238, 14-248, 15-258, 16-268, 17-278, 18-288, 19-298, 20-308, 21-318, 22-328, 23-338, 24-348, 25-358, 26-368, 27-378, 28-388, 29-398, 30-408, 31-418, 32-428, 33-438, 34-448, 35-458, 36-468, 37-478, 38-488, 39-498, 40-508, 41-518, 42-528, 43-538, 44-548, 45-558, 46-568, 47-578, 48-588, 49-598, 50-608, 51-618, 52-628, 53-638, 54-648, 55-658, 56-668, 57-678, 58-688, 59-698, 60-708, 61-718, 62-728, 63-738, 64-748, 65-758, 66-768, 67-778, 68-788, 69-798, 70-808, 71-818, 72-828, 73-838, 74-848, 75-858, 76-868, 77-878, 78-888, 79-898, 80-908, 81-918, 82-928, 83-938, 84-948, 85-958, 86-968, 87-978, 88-988, 89-998, 90-1008, 91-1018, 92-1028, 93-1038, 94-1048, 95-1058, 96-1068, 97-1078, 98-1088, 99-1098, 100-1108, 101-1118, 102-1128, 103-1138, 104-1148, 105-1158, 106-1168, 107-1178, 108-1188, 109-1198, 110-1208, 111-1218, 112-1228, 113-1238, 114-1248, 115-1258, 116-1268, 117-1278, 118-1288, 119-1298, 120-1308, 121-1318, 122-1328, 123-1338, 124-1348, 125-1358, 126-1368, 127-1378, 128-1388, 129-1398, 130-1408, 131-1418, 132-1428, 133-1438, 134-1448, 135-1458, 136-1468, 137-1478, 138-1488, 139-1498, 140-1508, 141-1518, 142-1528, 143-1538, 144-1548, 145-1558, 146-1568, 147-1578, 148-1588, 149-1598, 150-1608, 151-1618, 152-1628, 153-1638, 154-1648, 155-1658, 156-1668, 157-1678, 158-1688, 159-1698, 160-1708, 161-1718, 162-1728, 163-1738, 164-1748, 165-1758, 166-1768, 167-1778, 168-1788, 169-1798, 170-1808, 171-1818, 172-1828, 173-1838, 174-1848, 175-1858, 176-1868, 177-1878, 178-1888, 179-1898, 180-1908, 181-1918, 182-1928, 183-1938, 184-1948, 185-1958, 186-1968, 187-1978, 188-1988, 189-1998, 190-2008, 191-2018, 192-2028, 193-2038, 194-2048, 195-2058, 196-2068, 197-2078, 198-2088, 199-2098, 200-2108, 201-2118, 202-2128, 203-2138, 204-2148, 205-2158, 206-2168, 207-2178, 208-2188, 209-2198, 210-2208, 211-2218, 212-2228, 213-2238, 214-2248, 215-2258, 216-2268, 217-2278, 218-2288, 219-2298, 220-2308, 221-2318, 222-2328, 223-2338, 224-2348, 225-2358, 226-2368, 227-2378, 228-2388, 229-2398, 230-2408, 231-2418, 232-2428, 233-2438, 234-2448, 235-2458, 236-2468, 237-2478, 238-2488, 239-2498, 240-2508, 241-2518, 242-2528, 243-2538, 244-2548, 245-2558, 246-2568, 247-2578, 248-2588, 249-2598, 250-2608, 251-2618, 252-2628, 253-2638, 254-2648, 255-2658, 256-2668, 257-2678, 258-2688, 259-2698, 260-2708, 261-2718, 262-2728, 263-2738, 264-2748, 265-2758, 266-2768, 267-2778, 268-2788, 269-2798, 270-2808, 271-2818, 272-2828, 273-2838, 274-2848, 275-2858, 276-2868, 277-2878, 278-2888, 279-2898, 280-2908, 281-2918, 282-2928, 283-2938, 284-2948, 285-2958, 286-2968, 287-2978, 288-2988, 289-2998, 290-3008, 291-3018, 292-3028, 293-3038, 294-3048, 295-3058, 296-3068, 297-3078, 298-3088, 299-3098, 300-3108, 301-3118, 302-3128, 303-3138, 304-3148, 305-3158, 306-3168, 307-3178, 308-3188, 309-3198, 310-3208, 311-3218, 312-3228, 313-3238, 314-3248, 315-3258, 316-3268, 317-3278, 318-3288, 319-3298, 320-3308, 321-3318, 322-3328, 323-3338, 324-3348, 325-3358, 326-3368, 327-3378, 328-3388, 329-3398, 330-3408, 331-3418, 332-3428, 333-3438, 334-3448, 335-3458, 336-3468, 337-3478, 338-3488, 339-3498, 340-3508, 341-3518, 342-3528, 343-3538, 344-3548, 345-3558, 346-3568, 347-3578, 348-3588, 349-3598, 350-3608, 351-3618, 352-3628, 353-3638, 354-3648, 355-3658, 356-3668, 357-3678, 358-3688, 359-3698, 360-3708, 361-3718, 362-3728, 363-3738, 364-3748, 365-3758, 366-3768, 367-3778, 368-3788, 369-3798, 370-3808, 371-3818, 372-3828, 373-3838, 374-3848, 375-3858, 376-3868, 377-3878, 378-3888, 379-3898, 380-3908, 381-3918, 382-3928, 383-3938, 384-3948, 385-3958, 386-3968, 387-3978, 388-3988, 389-3998, 390-4008, 391-4018, 392-4028, 393-4038, 394-4048, 395-4058, 396-4068, 397-4078, 398-4088, 399-4098, 400-4108, 401-4118, 402-4128, 403-4138, 404-4148, 405-4158, 406-4168, 407-4178, 408-4188, 409-4198, 410-4208, 411-4218, 412-4228, 413-4238, 414-4248, 415-4258, 416-4268, 417-4278, 418-4288, 419-4298, 420-4308, 421-4318, 422-4328, 423-4338, 424-4348, 425-4358, 426-4368, 427-4378, 428-4388, 429-4398, 430-4408, 431-4418, 432-4428, 433-4438, 434-4448, 435-4458, 436-4468, 437-4478, 438-4488, 439-4498, 440-4508, 441-4518, 442-4528, 443-4538, 444-4548, 445-4558, 446-4568, 447-4578, 448-4588, 449-4598, 450-4608, 451-4618, 452-4628, 453-4638, 454-4648, 455-4658, 456-4668, 457-4678, 458-4688, 459-4698, 460-4708, 461-4718, 462-4728, 463-4738, 464-4748, 465-4758, 466-4768, 467-4778, 468-4788, 469-4798, 470-4808, 471-4818, 472-4828, 473-4838, 474-4848, 475-4858, 476-4868, 477-4878, 478-4888, 479-4898, 480-4908, 481-4918, 482-4928, 483-4938, 484-4948, 485-4958, 486-4968, 487-4978, 488-4988, 489-4998, 490-5008, 491-5018, 492-5028, 493-5038, 494-5048, 495-5058, 496-5068, 497-5078, 498-5088, 499-5098, 500-5108, 501-5118, 502-5128, 503-5138, 504-5148, 505-5158, 506-5168, 5

AMERICA'S CUP: CONTROVERSY DEEPENS BEFORE FINAL TRIALS

Victory may take to water without the fins that are rocking US boat

By Barry Pickthall

Peter de Savary, head of the British Victory syndicate, is undecided about 'Victory' 83 racing in the final elimination trials which start on Sunday with the controversial fin that were added to the bottom of her keel for her last semi-final against Australia 11 on Monday.

The experiment was not a total success. The British 12 metre, which had shown in previous encounters that she could match the Australian "superboat", trailed from start to finish and lost by 1 minute 26 seconds. At a press conference in Newport, Rhode Island after Australia's 44th win in 49 races Mr de Savary chided Mark Vinbury, an American who was supposed by impartial three man international measurement committee, for his breach of confidentiality in reporting the addition of fins to the United States Yacht Racing Union immediately after inspecting Ian Howlett's design at 7.30 on Monday morning when he agreed that these additions did not affect the yacht's flotation or her rated draught and that her original certificate of measurement could remain unchanged.

ATHLETICS

Palace coup by Cram?

Steve Cram may threaten Steve Ovett's world two mile record when he runs for England in the international bank holiday meeting at Crystal Palace on August 29. Cram insists that he is not interested in record breaking but he could be pushed close to his rival's record - set in the same track in 1978 - in the main race against Norway, Hungary and Scotland.

A record may depend on whether Cram, the world champion at 1,500 metres, suffers any adverse effects from an Achilles tendon injury. Ovett will continue to keep a low profile. He will be competing only as a member of the 4 x 400 metres relay squad as he prepares himself for a possible attempt to break either his own 1,500 metres world record or Sebastian Coe's mile world record.

TEAM: Steve Ovett, M MacFarlane, D Reid, D Reid, T Rowlands, 400m: P Brown, K Akhurst, 800m: P Elliott, R Harrison; 2,000m: C Reitz, T Hutchings; Two miles: S Cram, E Maranci, 2,000m: G Moore, G Pelt, Lewis, 110m hurdles: M Holton, I Corlett, 400m: J McEwan, S Cole, G Dakos; Pole vault: G Stock, 4x100m relay squad: M Powell, G Thomas, M Morris, Paul, 4x400m relay: G Dakos, G Stock, M Townes, E Tulloch, P Ashen, 4x400m relay squad: G Dakos, S Heard, Brown, C Harrison, C Mosley, J Kitchen, Bennett, C O'Brien, J Jackson, B Davies, B Davies, B Davies, B Dunn, B Gates, S Thomas, V Esprey, G Thompson, High Jump: F McDonald, A Kruger, Long Jump: S Williams, S Williams, S Williams, K Connor, J Herbert, S Murch, N Tabor, P Dickson, P Martin, P Mardle, H Warr, P Dickson, Javelin: D Crotty, R Bradstock.

Cram: still worried by an Achilles tendon injury

Lewis leads the cavalcade of stars

Zurich (AP) - American sprinter and long jumper and Mary Decker, sister of the 1,500 and 3,000 metres at Helsinki, are the biggest crowd-pullers among the 290 athletics from 30 countries competing here tomorrow night.

Miss Decker says she will attempt to break the world 3,000 metres record. Her personal best is 8 minutes 29 seconds while the world record stands at 8:26.78.

Despite the absence of the Soviet Union, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, the pull of the star-studded field has sent ticket sales records. Some 23,000 spectators will see

CYCLING

Russians in semi-finals

From Sydney Friskin
Amsterdam

Although the group matches will be completed today, it is now certain that the Netherlands, Soviet Union, West Germany and Spain have qualified for the semi-final round of the European championship.

The Soviet Union, who were sixth in the 1982 World Cup in Bombay, are now among the top four in Europe, which represents remarkable progress since they first appeared on the international scene in 1970.

The Netherlands finished on top of group B and the Soviet Union were second on goal difference, but until the Germans meet Spain today we shall not know the winners of group A. The Germans lead at present on goal difference and a draw with Spain will keep them there. In the semi-finals the winners of group A meet the runners-up in group B and the winners of group B play the runners-up in group A.

The Soviet Union made sure of their place among the last four by beating Scotland 4-1 yesterday. The score was not an index of the run of play. The Scots made a fine start, took the lead, and restricted their opponents to a 1-1 lead until nine minutes before the end.

The Scottish manager, Neil Buxton, was a little upset over the award of three short corners to the Soviet Union in the second half, although he did not dispute the penalty stroke which enabled the opposition to take a 3-1 lead.

McNeil's right foot came in the way of a hit from a shot corner and Ziganarov converted the penalty.

Scotland took their opportunity by surprise when Tom Hay scored from a scramble which followed a long corner in the second minute. Goncharov scored two goals and Ziganarov two for the Soviet Union.

The match between Ireland and Belgium ended in stalemate.

Teenager's triumph

By John Wilcockson

He showed that perhaps he could have gone a little faster.

There was disappointment too for Terry Tinsley, in the Keirin. In his heat, he came through strongly in the finishing straight to beat two of the favourites, Urs Freuler of Switzerland, and Shane Sutton, of Australia. On the electronic scoreboard the British boy was marked as third, which would have qualified him for the final.

He returned to the changing rooms, and was about to ride back to the team's hotel when the ten riders were called up for the repechage - including Tinsley. There had been a mistake on the scoreboard and the photo-finish had shown that Tinsley had been beaten by one-tenth of a second. He was tying up his shoelaces at the other nine waited. Not surprisingly, Tinsley got boxed in coming into the last lap, and he did not make the first three, who qualified for today's final.

RESULTS: Amateur 4,000 metres pursuit, ladies: 1. Y Kusunose (USA) 4:00.00; 2. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.17; 3. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.22; 4. D Lutjens (USA) 4:00.27; 5. M. Marc (WGI) 4:00.32; 6. P. Peiper (USA) 4:00.33; equal A. S. Sutton (AUS) 4:00.33; 8. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.34; 9. M. Hwang (KOR) 4:00.35; 10. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.36; 11. J. Van der Wal (NED) 4:00.37; 12. G. Peiper (USA) 4:00.38; 13. F. Kowalski (POL) 4:00.39; 14. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.40; 15. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.41; 16. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.42; 17. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.43; 18. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.44; 19. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.45; 20. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.46; 21. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.47; 22. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.48; 23. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.49; 24. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.50; 25. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.51; 26. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.52; 27. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.53; 28. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.54; 29. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.55; 30. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.56; 31. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.57; 32. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.58; 33. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.59; 34. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.60; 35. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.61; 36. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.62; 37. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.63; 38. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.64; 39. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.65; 40. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.66; 41. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.67; 42. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.68; 43. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.69; 44. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.70; 45. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.71; 46. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.72; 47. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.73; 48. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.74; 49. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.75; 50. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.76; 51. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.77; 52. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.78; 53. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.79; 54. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.80; 55. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.81; 56. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.82; 57. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.83; 58. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.84; 59. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.85; 60. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.86; 61. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.87; 62. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.88; 63. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.89; 64. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.90; 65. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.91; 66. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.92; 67. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.93; 68. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.94; 69. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.95; 70. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.96; 71. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.97; 72. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.98; 73. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.99; 74. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.100; 75. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.101; 76. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.102; 77. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.103; 78. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.104; 79. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.105; 80. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.106; 81. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.107; 82. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.108; 83. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.109; 84. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.110; 85. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.111; 86. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.112; 87. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.113; 88. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.114; 89. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.115; 90. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.116; 91. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.117; 92. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.118; 93. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.119; 94. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.120; 95. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.121; 96. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.122; 97. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.123; 98. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.124; 99. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.125; 100. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.126; 101. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.127; 102. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.128; 103. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.129; 104. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.130; 105. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.131; 106. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.132; 107. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.133; 108. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.134; 109. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.135; 110. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.136; 111. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.137; 112. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.138; 113. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.139; 114. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.140; 115. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.141; 116. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.142; 117. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.143; 118. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.144; 119. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.145; 120. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.146; 121. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.147; 122. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.148; 123. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.149; 124. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.150; 125. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.151; 126. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.152; 127. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.153; 128. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.154; 129. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.155; 130. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.156; 131. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.157; 132. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.158; 133. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.159; 134. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.160; 135. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.161; 136. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.162; 137. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.163; 138. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.164; 139. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.165; 140. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.166; 141. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.167; 142. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.168; 143. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.169; 144. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.170; 145. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.171; 146. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.172; 147. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.173; 148. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.174; 149. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.175; 150. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.176; 151. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.177; 152. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.178; 153. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.179; 154. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.180; 155. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.181; 156. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.182; 157. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.183; 158. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.184; 159. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.185; 160. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.186; 161. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.187; 162. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.188; 163. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.189; 164. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.190; 165. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.191; 166. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.192; 167. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.193; 168. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.194; 169. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.195; 170. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.196; 171. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.197; 172. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.198; 173. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.199; 174. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.200; 175. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.201; 176. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.202; 177. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.203; 178. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.204; 179. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.205; 180. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.206; 181. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.207; 182. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.208; 183. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.209; 184. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.210; 185. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.211; 186. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.212; 187. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.213; 188. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.214; 189. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.215; 190. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.216; 191. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.217; 192. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.218; 193. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.219; 194. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.220; 195. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.221; 196. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.222; 197. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.223; 198. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.224; 199. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.225; 200. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.226; 201. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.227; 202. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.228; 203. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.229; 204. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.230; 205. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.231; 206. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.232; 207. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.233; 208. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.234; 209. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.235; 210. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.236; 211. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.237; 212. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.238; 213. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.239; 214. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.240; 215. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.241; 216. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.242; 217. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.243; 218. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.244; 219. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.245; 220. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.246; 221. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.247; 222. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.248; 223. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.249; 224. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.250; 225. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.251; 226. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.252; 227. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.253; 228. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.254; 229. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.255; 230. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.256; 231. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.257; 232. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.258; 233. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.259; 234. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.260; 235. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.261; 236. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.262; 237. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.263; 238. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.264; 239. T. Tinsley (GBR) 4:00.265; 240. S. Yamamoto (Japan) 4:00.266; 241. D. Clark (Aus) 4:00.267;

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Law Report
August 23, 1983
Court of Appeal

Judge had no power to jail respondent

Lamb v Lamb
Before Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Kerr.
Judgment delivered August 15.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Mr Brian John Lamb, a respondent in divorce proceedings, against an order sentencing him to three months' imprisonment for contempt of court, which had been made on August 1, by His Honour Judge Alan De Piro in the Warwick County Court, on the ground that the judge, having previously on July 27, 1983, made an ex parte order committing him to prison for 14 days for the same offence, had no power to make such an order, since it was in effect sentencing him twice for the same offence. The Court ordered Mr Lamb's immediate release.

Mr Brian Healy, for Mr Lamb, (the appellant); Mr Andrew McFarlane, for Mrs Lynn Christine Lamb, the petitioner in the divorce proceedings.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that Mr Lamb's immediate release from proceedings appealed against was made by His Honour Judge Alan De Piro in Coventry and Warwick County Courts on July 27 and August 1, 1983, respectively, which ordered his commitment to prison for 14 days on the first occasion, and for three months on the second, for contempt of court. The petitioner, Mrs Lynn Christine Lamb, had applied for an order excluding him from the matrimonial home, and for certain injunctions. On July 25, 1983, the judge had made orders restraining Mr Lamb from molesting her, ordering him to vacate the matrimonial home, and restraining him from selling, destroying or otherwise disposing of certain property.

The effect of the orders and the consequences of breaking them were explained to the respondent, and he did vacate the property. When the petitioner returned she found that certain items had been removed and others damaged, and that damage had been done to the structure of the house, and she therefore applied for a committal order.

On July 27 the judge made the first of the two orders complained of, ex parte, giving injunctions with service of notice on the respondent. Pursuant to that order, the respondent was arrested and was sent to prison, but he was, on the judge's instructions, brought before him on August 1, and counsel was assigned to him. After hearing evidence from the respondent, the judge decided to increase the sentence to one of three months' imprisonment.

Mr Healy contended that the judge was wrong in the course that he took of hearing the matter, ex parte, and in dispensing with service of notice under Order 29 r. 1(4) of the Rules of Court.

But while seeing the dangers involved in making a committal order ex parte and while agreeing that such an order should only be made in exceptional circumstances, his Lordship considered that if the evidence was to be believed – and there was no reason not to believe it – the judge was faced with a flagrant and deliberate breach of the court's orders, and his Lordship was not prepared to say that the judge was wrong in making the ex parte order. His Lordship then proceeded to reject two other grounds on which the making of the first committal order, and accordingly the appeal as to that order failed.

But the making of the second order was an entirely different matter. It was not suggested that there was any very different or further evidence available, the only additional evidence being some photographs of the damage which had been done. There was no evidence of any further acts on the part of the respondent; the respondent had indeed been in prison.

His Lordship had been referred to the case of *Church's Trustee v. Hildyard* ([1902] 3 Ch. 764), which was a clear authority. If such were needed, then it is clearly wrong for a man to be sent to prison for the same offence. The judge, having heard the respondent's evidence, had no doubt thought that he ought to impose a stiffer sentence, but he clearly had no power to do so. The order which he made on August 1 was quite wrong and was a nullity. In those circumstances, the appeal against that order must be allowed, the order discharged, and the respondent must be released forthwith from prison.

LORD JUSTICE KERR delivered a short concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Cecil Angel & Co., Coventry; Brindley, Twist, Taft & James, Coventry.

Cleared pickets convicted off obstruction

From Our Correspondent
Huddersfield

Nine months after being cleared of obstructing the entrance to a hospital six pickets returned to the same court yesterday to be convicted.

In November, Calder magistrates at Halifax found the pickets, three men and three women, not guilty of causing an obstruction outside the Halifax General Hospital during the health service week of action last August.

But the police appealed and last month the High Court instructed the magistrates to find them guilty. At yesterday's hearing they were each given a conditional discharge for 12 months.

Mr Paul Parker, for the prosecution, said that vans driven by health authority executives were prevented from entering by the six pickets, who blocked the entrance.

Mr John Foster, representing five of the pickets, said that they had arranged with the health authority to stop and search vans to ensure they were only carrying essential supplies.

WELCOME OR WELCOME BACK?

As a long established recruitment consultancy, we've made a lot of friends over the years. Both our clients and our candidates tend to come back to us, because they can trust our warm yet totally professional service. If you're considering a career move, take a look at some of our current opportunities.

RECRUITMENT c. £10,500

Excellent opportunity with fast growing high-tech firm for the right person. Good experience in design and development in Personnel. Comprehensive work-pattern includes participation in the "Mile Round" & some training.

LEGAL to £7,900

Anything but dry & dusty describes this sector. Super Audio, Video, Music, Books, Film, Books, Games, Toys, Books, Personalities with organisational skills. Dealing with highly confidential matters at Senior Partner level.

WANG c. £7,900

Initiative & good telephone manner are essential in this busy & dynamic environment. Good experience in design and development in Personnel. Good experience in design and development in Personnel. Good experience in design and development in Personnel. Good experience in design and development in Personnel.

FREE TO TRAVEL? c. £7,000

A great chance for the London-based experienced Secretary with a desire to travel throughout the country from time to time – all expenses paid! Initiative & first-class presentation essential.

ADMIN PLUS! c. £7,000

Prestige & unusual interest for the skilled young Secretary who enjoys Admin. Excellent conditions, own office & lovely perks are included in the total package offered by this world-wide renowned agency.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact any of our branches throughout Central London or call in or phone one of the branches below:

19-23 Oxford St, W1. Tel: 01-437 9030.

30 Bush Lane, E.C.4. Tel: 01-626 8315.

Recruitment Consultants

Challoners

SURVEYORS W1 & EC4

2 SENIOR SECRETARIES

A leading firm of Surveyors wish to recruit 2 Senior Secretaries with both shorthand (100wpm) and Audio skills.

One, based in W1, would involve organising a young, go-ahead Partner who deals with interesting and varied Shop premises. The other, located off Cannon Street, provides solid typing and secretarial back-up to the Partner in charge of our City Office handling prestigious Offices, Investments and Developments.

Essential qualities should include an ability to work on own initiative, to get on with both clients and young minded executives and be prepared to become involved in the day to day running of a progressive organisation.

Write or telephone Mrs Pat Pledger, Personnel Officer, Edward Erdman, 6 Grosvenor Street, W1X OAD, 01 629 8191, with full details.

(No Agencies)

HELP

I need to replace myself as a matter of some urgency after 25 years as Secretary/PA to eminent international lawyer. Position requires fast, accurate shorthand and a total inability to panic, together with the usual range of secretarial skills. Some administrative functions involved but these can usually be carried out during lawyers frequent absences abroad.

Salary commensurate with skills & responsibility required in range of £10,500 - £12,000.

CV's please in first instance to:

Elizabeth Rowe,
46/47 Bloomsbury Square,
London WC1A 2RU

MARKETING SECRETARY Holborn over £7,000

Calm, efficient secretary with initiative aged 23 or older required for 4 managers of cosmopolitan, fast moving modern European headquarters in International Company. First class audio and shorthand, ability to organise and think as well as good educational background complemented by sense of humour and team spirit. Sounds like you? If so, please phone or write to:

Mrs J Francis
(All interviews held in Holborn)
ROMAN FURNITURE UNLIMITED
Lemming House, 2 Masons Avenue,
Crayford, Kent CR9 3NB
Telephone 01-686 8844
(No agencies please)

Sales Administrator for Prestigious Showrooms

We would like to meet a competent and energetic 25+ year old to join our existing and enthusiastic internal sales team. The position is showroom based and naturally, as manufacturers of one of Britain's leading office furniture systems, our own offices provide a first class working environment. You will need to be computer literate, have good organisational and presentation skills and be personable and大方 with UK organisations as well as architects, designers and of course, our own manufacturing unit concerning general sales admin and order processing.

This is both a stimulating and enjoyable position and offers excellent prospects and a competitive salary.

Apply in writing to:
Julie Zadovska
Lucas Furniture Systems
218 Wick Lane, London E2 2AU
(No Agencies)

Merchandiser Salary c. £8,500 neg

Small, newly expanding W1 import/export house servicing the needs of major European craft order houses is currently seeking a merchandiser. Duties include sourcing of products, liaison with the buyer and negotiating on buyers behalf with UK suppliers.

Candidates will preferably be aged 28+, well educated, probably to degree level with commercial experience. Good organisational skills and presentation skills are preferable. Working in an export environment where you have used your language skills and have had responsibility is essential.

For immediate interview telephone 081 7541 or write with full career details to: Mr Fletcher, W1 Supplies Ltd, Thoresby's House, 44-46 Chipping St., W1. No Agencies.

La crème de la crème

also on
page 20

Add Executive responsibility to your Secretarial accomplishments

The Chief Executive of the Thames Water Authority is seeking a top-flight Secretary.

The Authority is responsible for the supply and management of water resources covering an area stretching from Swindon in the west to Greenwich in the east, with a population of about 12 million.

You will need to be an experienced secretary with good speeds in shorthand and typing and will be expected to use new technology for which appropriate training will be given. In addition to the usual secretarial skills, you must be capable of working on your own initiative with the minimum of direction and be able to deal efficiently and diplomatically with members, officials and members of the public.

The post calls for a person who possesses integrity, tact and amiability as much of the work concerns matters of a confidential nature.

You will need to be educated to degree standard, or equivalent.

Salary will be c.£9,500 and benefits include 20 days' holiday, pleasant offices near Sadler's Wells Theatre, superannuation scheme, subsidised meals and sports and social facilities.

If you think you measure up to the job, write to, or phone the Regional Manager (Manpower), Thames Water Authority, New River Head, 173 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4TP, Tel. 01-637 3300, Ext. 2022, from whom application forms are available.

Closing date 9th September 1983.

Thames Water

Secretaries to General Sales Managers WOKING

The Crown Life Assurance Group of Companies has doubled its size in the last five years – and is committed to double its size again by 1986. We now wish to recruit experienced secretaries for two of our General Sales Managers based in Woking.

Duties will be both varied and interesting, and apart from having very good shorthand/audio-typing speeds, the successful candidates will be required to liaise with all levels of sales personnel.

Candidates, who are likely to be aged 25-35 in order to possess the



A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

La Crème

SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Recruitment Consultancy WC2

We are looking for an experienced Secretarial Recruitment Consultant to join us. You will want to find job satisfaction by working to the highest professional standards in what you already know is a highly competitive field.

Your experience to date will reflect your ability to take front line responsibility for customer liaison and client development. The rewards offered will certainly match the contribution we want you to make.

Please contact IAN ARCHIBALD

01-836 4086

"I wish I had more scope!"

Tick your requirements

- | | |
|--|---|
| Responsibility <input type="checkbox"/> | Present atmosphere <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Job interest <input type="checkbox"/> | Friendly people to work with <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Meeting people <input type="checkbox"/> | Real career prospects <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Good salary <input type="checkbox"/> | Lots of training <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hard work, but lots of satisfaction <input type="checkbox"/> | |

If you've ticked most of these then we have the job you're looking for. As the fastest-growing temporary help company in London we're looking for people to help us with their expansion.

The permanent positions we have, are for Customer Service Representatives and Supervisor/Interviewers, based throughout London.

You'll need to convince us that you have enthusiasm, an outgoing personality, a stable career history and a real desire for more than just a job. You're also likely to be over 21 years of age.

We have only a limited number of vacancies, so in the first instance we'd like you to call Paul Francis on 01-828 3313 right now!

Kelly Girl

London's fastest-growing temporary help company

THE PROFESSIONAL SOLUTION

Hambro Life Assurance, Britain's largest unit-linked insurance company, is supporting its sales force through the use of Micro-Computer technology.

Our administration team now needs an additional member (in their late twenties) who has:

- ★ Knowledge of Micro-Computers
- ★ Word processing experience
- ★ Training and communication skills
- ★ Administration/secretarial background

The position is London based with the possibility of travel to various locations within the UK and carries a salary of £8,750 neg with all the usual large company benefits.

If you would enjoy working in a successful sales environment, and are used to dealing with people at all levels please ring Frances Saunders on 01-499 0631 for further details.

Secretary

to Group Financial Controller

Because of promotion we require a Secretary to work for the Group Financial Controller in our Headquarters in Brentford, Middlesex.

The position requires excellent secretarial, administrative and organisational skills combined with a good telephone manner and presentable appearance. Preferred age 30 plus. Familiarity with legal and/or financial work would be useful though not essential.

We offer an excellent salary and other benefits associated with a large progressive Company.

Please send full career details to: Miss M. Timlin, Personnel Officer, Beecham Group plc, Beecham House, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9SD. Telephone: 01-561 5161 ext. 3280.

Beecham Group

AARDVARK SECRETARIAL AGENCY

Regent

EXECUTIVE TEMPS

Urgently

SH/SEC/PA from £4 ph

AUDIO SEC from £3.60 ph

COPY TYPIST from £3.30 ph

2 positions to start 30.8.83

SH SEC to MD, SW1

at £4.30 ph.

La crème de la crème

also on page 19

SECRETARY TO GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY INTERNATIONAL GROUP

Our small HQ office overlooks the Thames and is close to Tower Hill and the City of London.

We are looking for a well organised and experienced Secretary who enjoys work with a legal bias & a knowledge of word processing would be an advantage.

Salary £6,000 plus benefits such as private health scheme and annual membership.

Further information/applications to:

Ms Linda Needham,
DONALD MACPHERSON GROUP PLC.

Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC2G 5EL

Tel: 01-628 1795

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

£8,000

Executive Secretary required to manage the office administration of a team of Engineers/Consultants. Previous experience with Export House or similar in import of engineering equipment an asset. Specific Shorthand 120 wpm + Typing 80 wpm +. Audio equipment. Word Processing ability an asset. Basic Accountancy. A mature, responsible person who will be personally involved. Non-smoker preferred. Age 35-45. Should be able to join September.

Apply in Confidence
EXPORT ENGINEERING INTERNATIONAL S.A.
Retail Computer Services
1 Lower Regent Street, London SW1 4AA

Administrative/Personal Assistant

Required for busy part of the American College in London, W1. Must have sound typing skills and energy, will work directly for the Principal in confidential capacity, but will also help Financial Manager, 35 hours per week, competitive salary. Please call Mr C. Held for application on

01 486 1772

SECRETARY/P.A.

to Executive of professional Institute in Victoria

Fast and accurate typist with initiative and good sense of humour who enjoys working under pressure. Pleasant personality and telephone manner essential. Salary according to experience. If you can meet this challenge, ring:

01-245 5555

for an application form.

SECRETARY TO MD

Our client is a London based company which provides technical services throughout the world. They require an experienced secretary, aged 25-35, with a level standard with formal secretarial training and at least 5 years' secretarial experience. Salary £22,000. Please telephone 734 4284.

Career plan

Recruitment Consultants

DIRECTORS' PA

c£9,500

Two Main Board Directors of a large international company in Holborn need an efficient, flexible and discreet PA aged 25-35. You should have excellent secretarial and administrative experience. Please telephone 588 5355.

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

CHAIRMAN'S SEC/PA

c£9,000

International publishing company, City based, seeking a PA/SEC.

Although you will have excellent sh/typing skills, the emphasis is on administration and board level experience with the ability to handle confidential documents etc. in a good, dynamic, cash, manner. Luxurious offices. Age 24+

Please call Roy Stockton (01-734 8465), Stockton Associates, Rec. Cons.

ADMIN IN BROKING

£7,000

The new Office of a fast-growing American broking house is looking for a bright, self-motivated 22-25 year old to sort out all the day-to-day office admin. Run Flood Shows and handle the company book-keeping once a month. Good basic accounting educated to A level with experience of book-keeping to trial balance and any working hard in a chaotic, friendly environment. Superb office in ECA. Ring 588 3535.

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

Secretaries

Tourism development

£6,381 - £7,532 pa

The English Tourist Board is looking for two secretaries to join a team currently involved in the major new initiative Tourism and Leisure: The New Horizon - designed to stimulate investment in tourism. Within this challenging and pressurised environment, your first class secretarial and administrative skills will be vital to its smooth operation.

You should preferably be in mid to late 20s, possess at least four years' secretarial experience in a busy commercial environment and be capable of working on your own initiative. A good educational background (minimum 5 'O' levels) and at least 100/50 wpm in shorthand and typing are essential. Experience of word processing systems is desirable although training will be given.

In return, we offer 24/7 days holiday, LVA, inflation proofed pension scheme, and season ticket loans.

To apply please telephone Noreen McCain, Personnel Officer, on 01-730 3400 ext 350 during office hours, English Tourist Board, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU.

THE PERFECT SECRETARY

Common sense, sound judgement and humour are required with impeccable references. You will have to prove a varied ability to deal with individuals in a variety of situations. Company Secretaries, Accountants, Clerical staff, Agents, Solicitors, etc. All types of experience welcome. Also to deal with travel arrangements. Super 30-40 yrs. Please telephone 01-540 6651.

Secretary in Chelsea

Salary c£7,500 pa

Required for the Chairman/Managing Director of Youngs, The Seafood People. The position calls for first-class Secretarial Skills and the ability to work under the pressure of changing priorities.

Applications are invited from people who have held similar positions and live within a reasonable distance of the office.

Please send full details, in confidence, to Sue Cherry, Youngs Seafood Ltd, 10 Berwick Place, London SW3 3PL, or telephone 01-739 9342.



EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

Based city, age 25-40 with a high standard of education, interested in dealing with people and keen to earn a high income related to ability.

Please ring Mr Hector at Chase Personnel on 01-588 6615

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

Our short, sharp and professional business is looking for a top PA to be the head office of an established Knightsbridge agency.

The successful candidate will be an energetic office manager with at least 5 years secretarial experience and a desire to work in a fast moving environment.

Excellent shorthand and typing skills and a minimum of 5 O levels or equivalent qualifications are required. Previous experience in a professional office would be an advantage.

Salary on scale rising to £7,000 in accordance with experience.

For further details contact Mrs Linda Needham, 3rd Floor, 10 Berwick Place, London SW3 3PL, Tel: 01-739 9342.

HEALTHCARE COMPANY SECRETARIES PUTNEY SW15

Excellent opportunities for part-time and full-time secretaries to work in a fast growing and expanding healthcare company.

Excellent shorthand and typing skills and a minimum of 5 O levels or equivalent qualifications are required.

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BIRTHS
DUTIES, MARRIAGES, DEATHS
AND IN MEMORIAM £2.25 a line
minimum 3 lines)

Announcements authenticated
by the name and address of
the sender, may be sent to:

THE TIMES
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ

or telephoned by telephone
(subscribers only) to: 01-837 2311
or 01-837 3333.

Announcements can be received by
telephone between 9.00am and
5.30pm, Monday to Friday, as
Saturday, between 9.00am and
12.00noon. For publication the
following day, phone by 5.30pm.

**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS,
WEDDINGS, ETC.** See
Social Page 25 & line. 01-837
1224 ext 7714.

Court and Social Page announcements
cannot be accepted by
telephone.

GULF HELP is the name of the Local
Gulf Air Heath and Care Fund
124-8

BIRTHS

REED - On August 11, to Penelope
and Peter Reed, a son - a daughter.
Kelly Charlotte Robert.

ABOTT - On 17th August, to Jean
Henderson and Christopher
(Rachel Laura), a sister for Fred.

BELL - On 20th August to Clancy
and John Bell, a son - James Edward.

BOYD-WILLIAMS - On 21st August
to Roger Beavis, Hospitalised in
Rotherham, a son - a daughter
Hannah Williams.

CARMICHAEL - On 2nd August at
Jarrow, Newcastle upon Tyne, a son -
John, a daughter Karen and a son -
Jane. Kaye Bruce a sister for
Trevor.

CHAPMAN - On July 19th, in Mexico
City, Mexico, a son - Edmund Christopher
John, s son, Edmund Chapman.

CLARKE - On August 21st, in
Aldershot, Hampshire, a son -
Edward, at Christine Hartley
House, Aldershot, a daughter
(Sarah) Lucy.

DANIEL - On August 20, in Diana and
John Daniel, a son - a daughter.

ELLEN - On August 19, 1983 to Clare
Betty Ellen and Mark - a son -
Tom.

ELLIOT - On August 21st, in
Macclesfield, Cheshire, a son -
Matthew, to Vicki Lee (Eileen) and
Nigel.

FUDAKOWSKI - On August 21, at
Dunelm Mary's Hospital, Borehamwood,
Herts, a son - a daughter, Peter
Edward, and son James.

HORN - On August 14, at Northgate
Hospital, Abergavenny, to Monica
and Michael, a son - a daughter.

LLEWELYN - On August 20th at
Wrexham, a son - a daughter.

LODGE - On August 16th, at St Peter's
Hospital, Chelmsford, Essex, a son -
Michael, a daughter, Alexandra Claire.

MASON - ALICE ERNEST - On
August 18th, in Chelmsford, Essex,
Darting Point, a son - a daughter.

MARTIN - On August 18th, in
Plymouth, a son - a daughter, Peter
Martin, a son - Edmund Martin and
Michael, a daughter, Elizabeth Martin.

PULLIN - On August 19th at St
John's Church, Chelmsford, Essex,
John, a daughter, Alexandra Claire.

SCOTT - On August 14th, to Alison
and Alan Scott, a son - a daughter.

STEWARD MOORE - On August 16th
at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London,
a son - a daughter, James and
Sarah, and a son - a daughter.

WELCH - On August 22nd at Oldbury
Hospital, West Midlands, a son -
Matthew (Katherine) Jane, a sister
Lyn Thorne, Robert and Tim.

WILLIAMS - On August 19, 1983,
at the Westminster Hospital, to
William and Elizabeth Williams, a daughter.

WORSTHOLME - On August
20th, to Lynne and Trevor, a sister to
Charlotte.

BIRTHDAYS

NICKI PALMER is 22 today. Congratula-

MARRIAGES

PERIN - CALCOTT-JAMES - On
Saturday, 20th August, 1983, at St Paul's
Church, London, Malcolm Richard Perin to
Caroline Elizabeth James.

SMITH-JAQUES - On 20th
August, at Christchurch, Oshawa,
Ontario, Canada, a son - a daughter.

SILVER WEDDINGS

KIRKMAN: ADAMS - On
2nd, 1968 at St James, Piccadilly,
London, Malcolm Richard Perin to
Caroline Elizabeth James.

WHITE - JACQUES - On 20th
August, 1983, at the White Hart,
Walthamstow, a daughter, Charlotte.

BIRTHS

ALLAN - On 21st August, 1983, and
cremated at home. Commander James
Allan, 70, of the Royal Navy, died after
a long illness. He was the husband of
Barbara and a son - a daughter, Joanne.

AUKER - On August 15, 1983,
at Newmarket, Suffolk, a son - a
daughter, William.

BASSETT - On August 16th, at
Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, a son -
a daughter, William.

ALLISON - August 20, peacefully,
at a hospital, Juliet, wife of Sir Richard
Ullman, a daughter, Christopherine,
and a son - a daughter.

ANDREW - On August 20, 1983,
widely of her home in Dorset. David
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 *Central AM*: News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details.
 6.30 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough and Sue Cook: News from Debbie Dix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hour; news from 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; keep fit banisters, 6.45 and 7.30; tonight's television previewed between 7.15 and 7.30; news from the soap scene between 7.30 and 8.00; a preview of the morning papers at 7.32 and 8.32; how-to-do-it between 8.30 and 8.45; food and cooking hints between 8.45 and 8.55.
 8.00 *Blue Peter Goes Skating*: The summer competition of 1977-80 Brazil where John Noakes climbed the Corcovado Mountain; Leslie Judd went by cable-car to the top of Sugar Loaf Mountain; and Peter Purves flew a paraglide over Copacabana Beach 9.25. Jackanory, Rodney Bewes with part two of the story of 'Judy the Burger Cat' (r) 9.40. *Wet Weather Map* (r) 9.45. *Times Hart* introduced by Tony Hart (r) 10.05. *Clouds*.

1.00 *Maze After Maze* with Richard Whitemore and Vivien Cropper: The weather prospects come from Bill Giles' 1.22 Regional news (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news bulletins with subtitles 1.30. *King Radio* (1.31-3.45 *British Broadcast*) (r) 1.45. *Interval* 1.50. *Cued-in Avon*: On the last stage of his journey, Richard Cusden travels from Fordingbridge to the sea.

2.20 *Film Tempero Rapa* (1968) starring Glenn Ford as submarine captain, whose ship has a Japanese aircraft carrier cornered in Tokyo Bay. The only problem is that the carrier is being shielded by a freighter carrying his wife and child - and he wants to get away. Directed by Joseph Pevney. 3.40 *Take Another Look*: Nature's Jekyll and Hyde (4.18-4.38 *Regional news* (not London)).

4.20 *Play School*: Show earlier on BBC 2 4.45 *Cartoon Bass Cat*, in T.C. *Minds the Baby* (r) 5.05. *John Craven's Newround*: 5.10 *The Children of Destiny*: Alexis the only son and heir of the Emperor of Russia.

5.40 *News with Moira Stuart* 5.00. South East at Six.

6.25 *Cartoon: Senior Dracy*.

Doctor Who: Part three of the four episode adventure, *Kinda*. Starring Peter Davison (r).

7.00 *The Show Me Show* presented by John Craven and Maggie Philbin: This week's edition of the light-hearted science programme includes a teach-in about wind surfing.

7.30 *Fame*: Friendship Day at the drama school and it turns out to be anything but. Reunion refers to talk to Elizabeth and Doris upsets everyone.

8.20 *International Athletics* from Zurich: Highlights from the Weltklasse meeting held tonight.

9.00 *News with John Humphrys*.

9.25 *Floating Off*, by Stephen Davis: A comedy about a northern leisure complex, owner trying to sell off his property before his son discovers his plans. Starring Peter Woodthorpe and Graham Crowden (see *Choices*).

10.35 *Playhouse*.

10.35 *Salem's Lot*: The first of a two-part dramatisation of the novel by Stephen King about a young writer who is mysteriously drawn back to his home town and in particular to the house called Manse. Starring David Soul and James Mason (r).

12.05 *Weather*.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF - 90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF 92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service: FM 54kHz/453m.

ENTERTAINMENTS

1.11 Most of Hall 100 at reprise of *Winter Bonfire* (not London). *Summer Bonfire* 1.12. *Winter Bonfire* 1.13.

OPERA & BALLET

COLONNA S 8.30. 9.30. 10.45 20.20. *English National Opera*: *Tosca* (Giovanni Ricci 7.30). *Ringletts*. Some seats available.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 2.30 31.91. 23.92. 24.93. *Elgar* 7.30. *Puccini* 8.30. *Verdi* 9.30. *Macbeth* 10.45.

MARIA CALLAS And other soloists. *Traviata* 8.30. *Madame Butterfly* 9.30.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE COVENT GARDEN 2.30 10.45 19.30. *Don Giovanni* 7.30. *Ringletts*. Some seats available.

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Unions decide on soft line to fight Tebbit's reforms

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Battle lines for the debate within the TUC over "talking to Tebbit" were drawn up at a heated meeting of 17 union leaders last night.

The moderates said they were satisfied with the outcome, but left-wingers will still try to reimpose the boycott on discussions with Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, and enforce a policy of non-compliance with his forthcoming labour legislation.

After a three hour discussion a composite motion was drawn up putting the accent on constructive approaches to persuade the Government to withdraw this latest reform.

The motion's key section expresses alarm at the "mounting legislative attack on trade union rights and democracy" but decides that the proposals are best opposed by reasoned discussion, and by explaining to the public that Mr Tebbit's plans are unfair and impractical.

It instructs the TUC general council "to use every possible means to convey its reasoned opposition to the Employment Secretary's proposals and to dissuade the Government from taking further legislative steps on the basis of the most vigorous defence of union internal democracy plus a determination to advance union rights in the face of employer resistance".

But the white-collar engineering workers' union Tass is sticking to an amendment asserting that "there can be no discussion with the Government on the subject of anti-union legislation".

An amendment from the National Union of Mineworkers asks all affiliated unions to pursue a vigorous policy on non-cooperation with the

Leading article, page 9

Gas 'still too cheap'

Continued from page 1 made no official announcement. The National Gas Consumers' Council said that it would continue to press for a gas price freeze this autumn.

Calculations by Deloitte's show that the domestic gas tariff of 33.5 pence a therm would need to rise by 4.8p a therm if the corporation was to cover its marginal costs. Industrial and commercial tariffs would need to rise by an average of 1.8p a therm.

City Editor, page 13

At the same time, Deloitte's say that the corporation could save up to £100m by improving efficiency in some of its regions, particularly in customer services, and accounting. The highest-cost region, North Thames, has nearly 50 per cent higher costs than the lowest, East Midlands.

Among other recommendations, Deloitte's say British Gas should patch up its poor relations with Government

and

the style of intervention that will undermine collective bargaining arrangements and create further industrial disputes".

Leading article, page 9

None too young or frail to face the enemy

A 12-year-old Nicaraguan boy (above right) not much taller than the Kalashnikov rifle he carries, is shown as part of a forward patrol at El Ciste, north of Jalapa in Nueva Segovia, the scene of heavy fighting earlier this summer (Henry Stoenape writes).

The Honduras border, across which come insurgents backed by the United States who oppose the Sandinista Government in Managua, is only a few hundred yards away.

Women have also been serving in the Nicaraguan front line with regular troops, while men in their seventies are among local farmers in northern Nicaragua who have banded together in their own militia to protect coffee crops against the 800 or so anti-

government guerrillas in the mountains.

Latest reports from Central America, however, say that the threat of all-out war between Nicaragua and Honduras has receded in recent weeks.

Bernard Debusman, a Reuter correspondent, says after an 80-mile tour of the frontier that Nicaraguan patrols are now taking pains to avoid clashes which could lead to open conflict.

This evidence of restraint, which can be found apparently on both sides, comes when the United States is deploying as many as 5,600 troops in joint exercises with Honduras.

The relative quiet has encouraged the return of thousands of civilians.

(Photographs by Piers Cavendish)

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City Editor, page 13

£18m order reprieves steel jobs

Nearly 400 redundant North-east steel workers are being taken back on by British Steel, and two mills reopened, after the corporation's success in winning a £18m contract.

The deal announced yesterday to supply 40,000 tonnes of piping to bring gas ashore was won from Shell.

It is British Steel plates' third big North Sea contract since May and will mean that the Hartlepool plate and pipe mills, closed within five months of each other this year with the loss of 1,300 jobs, have won at least a temporary reprieve.

British Steel has been quietly recruiting 130 men for the Hartlepool plate mill in anticipation of winning the order, and it announced yesterday that another 250 men would be needed at the mill.

Meanwhile, the agent for Islington, South and Finsbury, Ms Liz Phillips, who is Mr Corbyn's personal assistant, issued a statement yesterday condemning newspaper reports about the constituency's delegation to this year's party conference at Brighton. Mr David Jones, who is a member of the Socialist League, the Trotskyist successor to the International Marxist League.

The league, which is alleged to have planted "moleys" in British Leyland's Cowley works, was reported to have infiltrated as many as 1,000 members inside the Labour Party. One particularly well-informed source, however, put the figure at 500-600.

Ms Phillips, who is visiting Nicaragua and could not be contacted.

Hard-left profile, page 2

Labour's hard left to set up national group

Continued from page 1

changes for a leadership election college and regular reselection of Labour MPs.

One attempt to create a

successor to RFMC, Labour

Liaison '82, which was sup-

ported by Mr Wedgewood Benn,

failed to attract the essential

interest of "union broad left

groups" and was eventually

wound up. But Labour MPs

have since created a Campaign

Group in the hope of stimulating

and coordinating action

inside and outside Parliament.

Mr Jeremy Corbyn, the new

Labour MP for Islington, North,

was the London Labour

Briefing representative on

Liaison '82 and has

attended meetings of the Cam-

paign Group in the Commons.

Mr Corbyn is visiting Nicaragua

and could not be contacted.

Hard-left profile, page 2

Zia claims situation fully under control

Continued from page 1

uprising to the rest of the country, the main weight of the protest is still only being felt in Sind Province, the southernmost part of the country. In the North West Frontier Province, in Baluchistan and, most especially in the Punjab, all that happens is that each day a few leading politicians court arrest in a public square and are led away by police, often to be released later in the day.

This, however, was the pattern during the civil disorders that led to the downfall of the government headed by Mr Ali Bhutto. The unrest began in Sind and went on there for 20 days before the Punjab began to join in.

This time certain things are different. In this situation the leadership is coming from feudal landlords of the province, from the landed aristocracy, and from the hereditary religious leaders, the *pirs* and *mujahidin* of Sind.

The *pirs* of Raniganj on Monday led his followers into the bloody violence of that day. Yesterday the *pir* of Hala took his followers out on a protest march which, however, ended peacefully. The depth of feeling in the province is such that the hereditary leaders feel pressed to maintain their positions by being out in front during the protest.

The same depth of feeling does not affect the Punjab, where many of the leaders of the political parties are already safely behind bars, and the Pakistan People's Party, which is the driving force behind the demonstrations in Sind, operates independently in the Punjab. Its leadership there has often been at odds with the Sind leaders.

Meanwhile in Karachi itself, the bitter smell of tear gas hangs over the crowded market area of Chakwara. Yesterday the MRD announced that a prayer meeting would be held to mourn those who have died in the campaign. Not much praying was done, however.

The cries of "Zia is a dog" and "Death to Zia" went on for two hours, while the police made four after forty into the streets where they quickly melted away.

General Zia was greeted in Karachi by 15,000 pro-regime demonstrators whom he told that the authorities had the situation in the country fully under control.

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Hard-left profile, page 2

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne opens the Thamesdown Housing Association's Elderly Persons Grouped Dwelling at Park Farm, Moreton, Swindon, Wiltshire, 3.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits the Pier Arts Centre in Stromness, Orkney, 11.50, and attends a service of dedication in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 4.30.

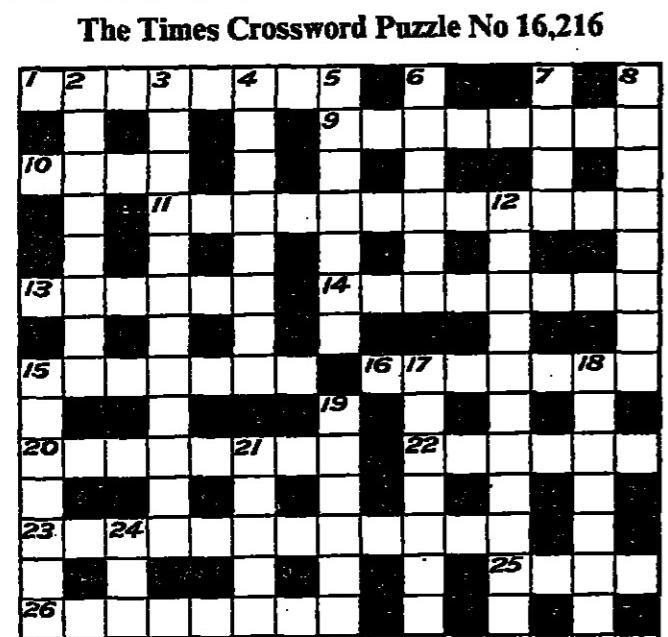
Exhibitions in progress

Art of the mastercraftsmen: Pre-Columbian ceramics of Peru, Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Oct 1).

Scotland's heritage: printed books and learning, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1, Sun to 5 (ends Sept 30).

Tomorrow's Technology Today, Design Centre, 72 Vincent Street.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,216



ACROSS

1 Girl's given credit as an air traffic controller (8).

9 At home the man has something to pay, it's natural (8).

10 Present in 9 (4).

11 Getting paid for lapes is no different (12).

13 The way papers burn (6).

14 Happening to put two numbers in order (8).

15 Show curiosity about primitive primeness (7).

16 Eastern doctor going by old ship put under ban (7).

20 Aquatic creature has to stay back by river (8).

22 Make an anagram of repair (6).

23 Train men to nuclear terminology (12).

25 A river, no? Yes! (4).

26 King's not dead; the business is out in the open (8).

27 Description of what's left is held back in Sir Harry's return (8).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,215

DOWN

2 One making speeches about gym, or one who performs (8).

3 Cooking she's pinned her mashed potato over the meat (9,3).

4 Grass, not out of an earlier time (8).

5 Kind of energy the family appears to call up (7).

6 Dose with some of Murphy's ice-cream (6).

7 Near the middle (4).

8 There's some point to it; let's change that (8).

12 Appendix of an elderly type of climber (3,4,5).

15 Ginger-beer consumed by bird that's dandy! (8).

17 He's entitled to damage that French ship (8).

18 Flower plot, one with a shrub (8).

19 Council member set 25 adrift (7).

21 Cut in magnitude, we hear (6).

24 Resentment when I'm turned up very loud (4).

25 Solution of Puzzle No 16,215

New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

- Art of the mastercraftsmen: Pre-Columbian ceramics of Peru, Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 4.30 (ends Sept 11).
- Scotland's heritage: printed books and learning, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1, Sun to 5 (ends Sept 30).
- Paintings by Mike Lawson, Atkinson Art Gallery, Lord Street, Southampton; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Thurs and Sat 10 to 1 (ends Sept 3).
- Work of Malvern Art Club, Public Library, Malvern, Library hours, Mon to Sat, closed Wed and Sun (ends Sept 13).
- Vases in Britain: books and grants, Somerby Castle Museum, Tamworth, Hull, 1795; James Wedderburn, Oxford, 1787; Sir Max Beerbohm, London, 1877; Sir Alfred Coxhead, by Wyndham Lewis, afterword by Roland Smith (Carcanet, £2.95).
- Lord's Taverners' Fifty Greatest, selected by Trevor Bailey, Richie Benaud, Colin Cowdrey, and Jim Laker (Harrap, £4.95).
- The Pig in Art, by Michael Ryalls (Orion, £4.95).
- Vanesa Bell, by Frances Spalding (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.95).

PH

London, Central & England, E Midlands, Fog clearing, sunny, scattered showers, light winds, 18°C, 80% RH, 70% H.

SE England, East Anglia: Fog clearing, sunny, scattered showers, some heavy, light winds, 18°C, 80% RH, 70% H.

Wales, NW England, Lake District: Fog clearing, sunny, scattered showers, some heavy, light winds, 18°C, 80% RH, 70% H.

NE: NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Fog clearing, sunny, scattered showers, some heavy, light winds, 18°C, 80% RH, 70% H.

W: NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Fog clearing, sunny, scattered showers, some heavy, light winds, 18°C, 80% RH, 70% H.